

# Climate change won't wait for our resolve

*The Lowell Sun*

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I poured myself a scotch to toast my father on the anniversary of his death, and started to read Eugene Robinson's article "Trump would undo vital climate change progress."

My father was a refugee from Hitler's Europe. He fled Austria as a kid with his family in the summer of 1938. They spent a tense and stressful year in France waiting for papers to travel to America. Thirty years later, my father would tell me and my siblings about his experiences fleeing Hitler. I could hear horror in his voice. Even though he and his immediate family arrived safely, I could hear that the kid in him still suffered from the trauma of being in danger and not knowing if he would get to safety in time. I could hear that my father knew very well the story would have ended with disaster if they had stayed in Austria just another few months.

There is such a thing as being too late. For Jews in Hitler's Europe the consequence of being too late to leave was quite likely death. Being too late for vital climate change progress already means devastating droughts, punctuated by deadly torrential rains. It quite likely means several meters of sea level rise, rising average temperatures and, quite likely, the deaths of thousands of species.

I am grateful that our governor signed an executive order acknowledging human-caused climate change is real and can't wait.

I hope that when the election cycle is finally over our governor urges congressional Republicans to support a carbon pricing system because it'll help Americans lower our emissions quickly, without chaos -- and without being too late.

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