

Balloon Biz Goes Bust Over Helium Shortage

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According to an old saying, 'what goes up must come down.'

Helium gas goes up, but the supply of helium is way down around America this year. Companies that sell the gas report a worldwide shortage, and the U-S government is selling domestic helium supplies to other countries. A co-owner of Family Tree Floral in West Salem, Clair Bissen, doesn't like it...and if you think Bissen is upset, imagine how his customers feel. He says they've gone to other stores because he can't sell helium balloons. Bissen says his store's helium supply was cut off weeks ago. The price of a tank of helium, good for about 150 balloons, is up about 30 per cent in some places.