Oh, my word!

As an editor, I am conscious of the use of words - just ask my husband and he'll tell you how quick (too quick) I am to correct his language from time to time. But, I have always felt that the importance of words can never be underestimated and should never be shunned or overlooked or simply shrugged of as a silly detail.

One of the main problems we face today is the changing English vocabulary. There are so many new words and phrases being coined every day to identify new technology and ideas that it's hard, even impossible, to keep up.

I came across this interesting item from the Washington Post recently which really brought this point home for me. I thought you might be interested in reading it too!

Here, for proactivists who delight in inflated language, is a classic new recipe, The Chocolate Chip Cookie.

- · Total lead time: 35 minutes. Inputs: sugar, butter, eggs, vanilla, flour, baking soda, chocolate chips and nuts.
- Guidance: Decontainerize inputs. Perform measurement tasks on a case-by-case basis. In a mixing-type bowl, impact heavily on sugar and butter. Co-ordinate the interface of eggs and vanilla, avoiding an overrun scenario to the best of your skills and abilities.

At this point in time, leverage flour, baking soda and salt into a bowl, and aggregate. Equalize with prior mixture, and develop intense and continuous liaison among inputs until well co-ordinated. Associate key chocolate and nut subsystems, and execute stirring operations.

Within this time frame, take action to prepare the heating environment for throughput by manually setting the oven baking unit by hand to 190 degrees C. Drop mixture in an ongoing fashion from a teaspoon implement onto an ungreased cookie sheet at intervals sufficient enough apart to permit total and permanent separation of throughputs to the maximum extend practicable under operating conditions.

Position cookie sheet in a bake situation and surveil for 8 to 10 minutes or until cooking action terminates. Initiate co-ordination of outputs within the cooling rack function. Containerize, and disseminate to authorized personnel on a timely and expeditious basis.

I'd like to make a couple of points about the magazine.

I've heard reports of the many contributions, both financial and manpower, made by Women's Institute members in the aftermath of the tornado which struck some parts of southern Ontario at the end of May. It is of no surprise to me that these tremendous efforts were and continue to be made by WI members. I would like to hear more details of the assistance and any human interest stories that may be out there for inclusion in Home & Country.

I am looking for a districts for upcoming District Diary features in the magazine. Are there any ambitious and willing district public relations officers and/or presidents who are interested in working on their district diary for the magazine? Please contact me.

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