

Local Grandmother To Celebrate Mother's Day Through Project HOPE Organization



VIRGINIA GROVE

Celebrating Mother's Day in a unique way this year, Mtn. Lake Park resident Virginia Grove has decided to contribute to Project HOPE, an international development and relief organization designed to help newborn babies receive the care they need, especially when they are born with birth defects.

Project HOPE (Health Opportunities for People Everywhere) was founded in 1958 and is dedicated to providing a lasting solution to health problems with the mission of helping people to help themselves. Project HOPE now provides medical training and health education and conducts humanitarian assistance programs in more than 30 countries.

Grove explained how she and other mothers in her life have personally benefitted from mod-

ern health care, but recognizes that many women around the globe are not so fortunate. In lieu of traditional cards and flowers, she has decided to recognize mothers throughout the world by donating to Project HOPE's Save Newborns Now campaign, contributing monetarily in the names of each of the 16 mothers in her life.

"I was thinking about what to do for Mother's Day, as this will be my granddaughter's first Mother's Day," said Grove. "My granddaughter Ariel is expecting her first child in July, and my cousin Jim's daughter is also expecting her first child."

Grove's first daughter Pam was born with the condition called tetralogy of fallot, a congenital heart defect that is present at birth. Pam's specific issue was a hole between two

ventricles and a blocked pulmonary artery. In 1964, when Pam was born, she was referred to as a "blue baby" and pediatric open heart surgery was still relatively new. She fortunately received the care she needed at Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pa. Pam now has four grown children of her own.

Grove can be reached at ginygrove70@gmail.com or by phone at 301-334-8269. Those seeking more information about Project HOPE may visit www.projecthope.org.

