

# Beatrice's HOPE



Creating a  
childhood and  
opportunity  
for orphans in  
rural Uganda

THE NEWSLETTER OF HOPE MULTIPURPOSE, INC., FOUNDED BY BEATRICE GARUBANDA

VOL. 25, SUMMER 2017

## Life at the Blue House

Take a peek at a couple of days at the Blue House. The girls have school, chores, friendships, and fun. They're learning independence, interdependence, and responsibility. **H**



Carrying water during the dry season. Those jerry cans are heavy!



Saying "Hi!" to their American friends.



Immaculate and Abia arrive home from school, with worksheets to do over the weekend.



Chopping cabbage for dinner



Every day is laundry day when you wash your own clothes by hand, and dry them in the sun and breeze.



Showing a visitor their room. Each room has 2 bunk beds for 4 girls.



The girls come home for lunch at the Blue House on school days.



Ovious, one of the original girls and now a student at Makerere University, is doing her internship at the Blue House. She is studying Community Education and literacy for adults.



## Staff keep the Blue House humming

Staff roles overlap, with everyone pitching in for whatever is needed for the care, safety, and love of the girls.

Watch for news of the director position in the next issue. **H**



Housemother Matene Ziporah is a potato peeling pro.



Kansiime Lydia is the new cook. The kitchen is in a separate building, since they cook with fire.



Alice Namirembe, the social worker, and Ziporah, the housemother, take a break outside where they can keep an eye on the girls doing chores.



Farm Manager Wanzala Fabian checks on the cows and the new bull calf, born in June.

## Agnes returns as the new housemother

One of the original girls at the Blue House, Agnes Twikirize, has been hired to be the new housemother at the Blue House. She will replace Vene, who resigned earlier this year.

Agnes was one of the first to finish her Ordinary Level schooling. She was determined to continue her education.

Luckily she had relatives who were willing to sell a cow or otherwise raise some funds to help her.

She worked hard, and trained in a program in Institutional Catering and Hotel Management, in Kampala. After graduation, Agnes managed a bookstore in downtown Kampala, and also ran a personal business venture, a small beverage shop in a Kampala suburb. She's always been a go-getter! **H**



On her first day back at the Blue House, Agnes said on Facebook: "Buzy at work! I thank Jesus for this job."



Flavia (left) gets some one-on-one homework help with Agnes.



Even as a resident, Agnes, right, was a caretaker for the younger girls, at the new house.



Agnes was a teenager in the early days of the Blue House.



Graduation from vocational school



## Prefects help care for younger girls

Older girls are selected to help the staff care for the younger girls and assure all goes well. They meet with Alice, the social worker, monthly or as needed, helping to stretch resources and learn responsibility.



Akampwerire,  
Beatrice Wing Leader



Lilian, Sanitary



Christine, Head Girl, and Abia,  
Welfare



Brenda, Kosia Wing Leader



Jane, Chapel, and Ovia, Sports

## The new sewing principal

Musiime Viterno has been hired to run the Margaret Krohn Sewing School, replacing Vene who has left the Blue House. Musiime is an experienced trainer and National Sewing Examiner. He has been able to provide uninterrupted instruction during the transition, and is working hard to increase enrollment and expand this self-sustaining program. [H](#)



Musiime Viterno



Musiime's design for a school badge for the students.



A parent registers her daughter for the school.



The new Margaret Krohn sewing class, including Blue House students, Jenipher (2nd from left) and Shifura (not shown).

## Pine Valley Run on Labor Day- Do you want easy or hard?

### The Lost Forester Run

is a new challenge for this year's 5th annual fundraiser. This Adventure Run is designed to be hard. It is a 20K--more or less--up and down the steepest hills, through swamps, creeks, and dense woods. The route is 11K of trails followed by 9k of off-trail path marked with ribbon. Runners will be self-supporting the whole distance. Bring your own water, gels, and compass (required for all participants for safety). Long sleeve shirts, pants, and sturdy shoes are highly recommended.



The Pine Valley 5.5k and 11k Trail Runs, on the other hand, are similar to previous years, winding through scenic pines and hardwoods, suitable for runners of all levels. Come join us for a pleasant run through the woods on wide, mowed trails at the Pine Valley Recreational Area.



**Pine Valley 5.5k and 11k Runs  
And the Lost Forester 20k Challenge  
Labor Day, Sept. 4, 8:30 am  
Pine Valley Park, Cloquet, MN**

[www.Blue-House.org](http://www.Blue-House.org)





## Growing their own food

The 9 acres at the Blue House become more productive every year. Housemother Ziporah oversees the gardens, sharing her agriculture education and experience with the girls and other staff.

In March the Peace Corps visitors taught everyone how to plant a permagarden, which allows more vegetables to grow more efficiently in a smaller area. The director reported, “Unlike the beans we planted in our larger garden which usually grow in three to four months before harvest, the beans in the permagarden were ready for harvest in two and a half months.” Some collard greens were transplanted to their traditional garden along with those that remained in the permagarden, and the girls have enjoyed them with their meals. We are so thankful for this knowledge that is now improving nutrition. **H**



*Dig deep to store water, pile soil in mounds for the seeds. Add ash for minerals, manure for nitrogen, charcoal for water retention, and egg shells for calcium.*



*From March to May, the permagarden proved itself, growing fuller and faster, ready for early harvest. In the background is the crop planted traditionally.*

*Ten mango trees like this one, planted in 2012, bore fruit this year.*



*The girls show off their first mango harvest, all from one tree!*



*Ziporah, who is in charge of the gardens, and Lydia, the cook, picking greens for dinner.*



*Lydia, the cook, prepares sukuma (collard greens) from the permagarden.*

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*Fruit fresh off the tree – what could be better!*



## Blue House Boutique leadership team seeking new members

After a dozen years, some of the original organizers of our most important fundraiser feel it's important to bring in new leadership perspectives, in order to keep the Boutique fresh and vibrant. The Blue House Boutique has gained a reputation for high quality hand-made gifts at a reasonable price, supporting a worthwhile cause.

The Boutique Steering Committee has divided the work into specific areas of responsibility with their own managers, and a lot of enthused volunteers. It's a well-organized function. Maybe you've volunteered, and are ready to become more involved? Or know someone who would be a good addition to the team?



*The Boutique gets better every year, because of the dedicated leadership team.*



**Saturday, Dec. 2— 9 to 3  
Sunday, Dec. 3— 9 to 1**

*Lunch served Saturday, 11 to 1:30*  
**St. Matthew's Episcopal Church,  
2136 Carter Ave., St. Paul**

Shoppers can tell this is an event that happens because of love for the girls in Uganda, and the leadership really puts their heart into their work. Now they need you to look into your heart, and decide how you can help. Contact Nancy, 651-402-2541 or Linda, 651-248-1488, to talk about how you may be able to contribute to the Boutique's ongoing success.



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HOPE MULTIPURPOSE, INC.

HMI is a 501(c)(3) charity founded by Beatrice Garubanda and based in St. Paul, MN. HMI sponsors The Blue House orphanage in Kazo, Uganda.

**Donations to HMI are tax deductible. See**  
[www.hopemultipurpose.org/donate.html](http://www.hopemultipurpose.org/donate.html)

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**DONATE** online or use the enclosed envelope.  
Help HMI add OPPORTUNITY to its mission:

- to accept more young, vulnerable girls
- to support more education for girls and young women

[www.hopemultipurpose.org/donate.html](http://www.hopemultipurpose.org/donate.html)

## Appreciations & Ovations

- **Knights of Columbus Fr. Finley Council #4374** in Maplewood, Minnesota, for generous donations from the organization and individuals. HMI Board member Pascal Ngoboka, right, gave the Knights of Columbus checks to Treasurer Brenda Hansen.
- **St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church** for a Special Ministry Grant of \$2,300 to paint the Blue House.



## Mothers' Tea

A big thank you to **Tea Source** for donating teas, **Sweet Rhubarb** for donating their musical entertainment, and **St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church** for donating the venue for the Mothers' Tea fundraiser. Thank you also to all the volunteer bakers and servers, and all who attended.



*James Garubanda enjoys his new granddaughter.*



*Fathers served tea at the almost-sold-out event, while guests shopped at the African Market, in the back.*



**The Blue House**  
c/o St. Matthew's Episcopal Church  
2136 Carter Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55108

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*It's always a good sign when the girls want to read in their spare time.*

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