

Winter 5771/2010

etzion UPDATE

from Yeshivat Har Etzion

Dedication of Revava Program

On September 5, 2010 (26 Elul 5770) **Joel, Yedidia, Yekutiel and Amitai Koschitzky** dedicated **Revava: The Riva Koschitzky z"l Torah Enrichment Program** in memory of their beloved mother and wife at a ceremony in the Yeshiva attended by the Roshei Yeshiva, *Ramim*, family and friends.

Arye Colton '81, Etzion Foundation Chairman of the Board and Riva's brother, was MC of the event. "Riva's company, wisdom and generosity of thought are sorely missed by all who knew her," he said. He explained that while the yeshiva's core curriculum is made up of traditional Talmud study, the Yeshiva has always regarded the in-depth study of Tanakh, Halakhah and Jewish Philosophy as a vital element of Torah education and has traditionally offered students supplementary classes, *chugim* and *chaburot* in these topics. The Riva Koschitzky z"l Torah Enrichment Program aims to incorporate all these supplementary studies into one over-arching, organized framework that will maximize their impact.

Rosh Yeshiva **Rav Baruch Gigi** spoke at the event and said, "It is our hope that the re-structured program will improve the quality of instruction and ensure that all Har Etzion

students, both from Israel and abroad, will benefit from the fullest possible range of topics and lecturers." He added, "Riva z"l understood the importance of not only looking inward, but of looking around to see what are the needs of society. She was always prepared to listen and help."

Yekutiel Koschitzky, the son of Riva z"l and Joel and a hesder student in the Yeshiva, emphasized the challenge faced by every *talmid*: to be simultaneously anchored in the Beit Midrash and actively involved in the outside world. "This can only be achieved through the acquisition of knowledge and skills. The Revava program will help *talmidim* to better understand the complexity of our lives and give us the tools to grapple with

this complexity and live full Torah lives," he stated.

Following the unveiling of a dedication plaque in the lobby of the Beit Midrash building, Rosh Yeshiva **Rav Yaakov Medan** delivered a memorial shiur on "*Malchuyot, Zichronot ve'Shofarot*".

This year's annual Chanukah study seminar for students was dedicated in Riva Koschitzky's name, as part of the Revava program. The Yeshiva is deeply grateful for the support of the Koschitzky family, and honored to pay tribute to the memory of Riva z"l. A listing of the courses in the Revava program can be viewed on the yeshiva's website.

Riva Koschitzky z"l

REVAVA

"אחותנו את היי לאלפי רבבה"

Riva was born on August 19th, 1960 in Montreal, Canada to Joey and Annette Colton. Following her graduation from the Hebrew Academy of Montreal, she studied for a year at Michlalah-Jerusalem College in Bayit VeGan and continued on to Barnard College in New York, where she graduated with a BA in Computer Science. Riva married Joel Koschitzky in 1981, and together they made aliyah from Toronto one year later. Riva lived in Israel for 27 years and died from breast cancer on December 19th, 2008. Riva is survived by her husband Joel and her three sons: Yedidia (YHE Hesder '05), Yekutiel (YHE Hesder '07) and Amitai.



Audience at the dedication ceremony



Left to right: Joel and Amitai Koschitzky, Joey and Annette Colton, Yekutiel and Yedidia Koschitzky at unveiling of the plaque