Welcoming the New Year

In Elul, Yeshivat Har Etzion welcomed its 44th Machzor of talmidim to the Beit Midrash. In total, there are over 460 talmidim in the Yeshiva this year. Of these, 50 are currently serving in the army and over 400 are in the Beit Midrash, which resonates with the sounds of Torah learning. This winter, the Yeshiva is studying Masekhet Gittin.

Eli Weber ’81 – New Director of Overseas Program

When Eli Weber ’81 moved from Teaneck, NJ to Efrat with his family two years ago, he decided to take a break from his career in law and devote his time to learning in the Yeshiva. Eli quickly became a familiar face in Yeshiva, learning in the Beit Midrash, waiting on line with the guys in the chadar ochel, joining tiyulim, teaching afternoon chugim and interacting with the talmidim from abroad.

When Eli was offered a position as Director of the Overseas Program, it was a perfect fit. Eli has been closely associated with the Yeshiva and the Etzion Foundation for 30 years – as a talmid, board member, Dinner Guest of Honor, and now, as staff.

Eli finds the new position more challenging than he imagined, yet very rewarding. The new group of talmidim is a large and wonderful group, he says, who are very motivated to learn. “Our ultimate message to the talmidim is that everything is about our relationship with the Kadosh Barukh Hu,” explains Eli. “This message has always been implicit in the Yeshiva’s educational approach, but now we are trying to make it more explicit – to discuss it frontally.”

In his work with the Ramim, madrichim and administrative staff, Eli is actively involved, energetic, and innovative. In addition to overseeing the program, he teaches afternoon chugim, delivers sichot and spends one Shabbat a month with his family in Yeshiva. “This is my dream job, being in Yeshiva. It’s a fantastic opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of others,” Eli says. We wish him much success in the new position!

Where are this year’s talmidim from?

- The Dr. William Major Overseas Program includes 68 first-year, 15 second-year and 5 post-college talmidim from North America and England.
- There are 24 talmidim from South Africa and Australia in the MTA Program.
- Six young men are in the Darkaynu Program for talmidim with special needs.
- In the Israeli Hesder Program, there are currently 217 talmidim in the Beit Midrash and another 50 on active army duty.
- There are 78 post-Hesder talmidim in the Beit Midrash.
Introducing New Ramim

Yeshivat Har Etzion welcomes Rav Micha’el Edrei ’90H, who is teaching Shiur Bet in the Hesder program this year. Rav Edrei previously served as a Ram at the Yeshiva Hesder in Acco for four years. He is an alumnus of Yeshivat Har Etzion and served in the Golani Unit in the IDF. Rav Edrei holds a degree in law and economics from Bar-Ilan University. In addition to his semikha studies, he studied dayanut at the Eretz Hemda Institute in Jerusalem.

Rav Nehemia Ra’anan joined the Yeshiva last year and is currently teaching fifth-year Hesder students. He began his yeshiva studies at Merkaz HaRav Yeshiva, continued at Yeshivat Hesder Ma’alot Yaakov and served in the IDF Nahal Unit. In 1996 he became a founding member of Yeshivat Siach Sadeh and in 2001 he joined the Kollel Gavoha of Yeshivat Har Etzion. In addition to receiving his semikha while at Yeshiva, Rav Ra’anan earned a Bachelor of Education degree from Herzog College. He previously taught in the Yeshiva High School Mekor Chaim in Kibbutz Kfar Etzion.

Revava: The Riva Koschitzky z”l Torah Enrichment Program

The Revava Program gives both Israeli and overseas students the opportunity to complement their intensive Talmud study with in-depth study of Tanakh, Halakha and Jewish Thought. As a secondary benefit of the program, the afternoon classes provide an ideal venue for talmidim to interact in an informal way with the Roshei Yeshiva and Ramim, which adds tremendously to the Yeshiva experience and their personal development. According to Rosh Yeshiva Rav Baruch Gigi, this year the Halakha Program will be intensified, with a focus on kashrut. In the area of Tanakh, a new cycle of sefarim will be studied. New classes and chaburot have been added in the area of Jewish Thought and Halakha. In addition, an increased effort is being invested this year in guiding the talmidim in how best to use the hours available to them in both the Beit Midrash and chabura segments of the day.

Yoni Jesner z”l Elul Program

Over twenty alumni from around the world came to visit the Yeshiva in Elul, to recharge their spiritual batteries before returning to university or work. They benefited from the Yoni Jesner z”l Elul Program, which subsidizes the stay of returning overseas alumni who wish to study at Har Etzion in the period leading up the Yamim Nora’im. The program exists thanks to the generous support of Steve and Renee Adelsberg, whose son, David ’01 was a chevrua and close friend of Yoni z”l. In September of 2002, Yoni, an exceptional talmid from Glasgow, Scotland, was mortally wounded on a bus traveling to Tel Aviv that was attacked by a suicide bomber. It is a fitting memorial that in Yoni’s name many talmidim join us in the Beit Midrash every Elul.

Yom Kippur

As in previous years, the Yeshiva welcomed many alumni and other guests from Israel and abroad for the inspiring Yom Kippur davening in Yeshiva. Ba’alei tefilla included Rav Shlomo Brin for Kol Nidrei, Rami Yanai for Musaf, and Rosh Yeshiva Rav Yaakov Medan for Ne’ila. Among the guests were: Julius Berman, Marcel Weber, Leon and Marilyn Moed, Steve and Adina Fredman, Lenny Gross ’92PC, Mark and Susan Weisen, Tobi and Gerson Schapiro ’84, Rabbi David and Miriam Shapiro, Eliezer and Yitty Glaser, Marty Kaufman and Kalman Schoor ’01 with sons Micah and Saadya.

Simchat Torah

Simchat Torah was celebrated in Yeshiva with much joy. New student Shua Katz, son of Avi ’76 and Rivi Katz from Teaneck, NJ, relates, “Before I came to Har Etzion, I had heard of the Yeshiva’s reputation, and I was eager to experience it firsthand, but nonetheless, I had not truly pictured what life in Yeshiva would be like. Simchat Torah in Yeshiva could not have painted that picture any better. The dancing and singing throughout the Yom Tov were more than just enjoyable and exciting; it was an atmosphere of pure and intense love for Torah and Avodat HaShem, a sort of intensified version of the atmosphere that pervades the Yeshiva every day.”

Mazal Tov to Rosh Yeshiva HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein, who was Chatan Torah, and to Rav Binyamin Tabory, Chatan Bereishit. The chatanim celebrated with an Oneg Shabbat on Parshat Noach.

The Israel Koschitzky Virtual Beit Midrash

The new curriculum for 2011/12 has been posted, featuring 16 weekly written courses. We are pleased to offer several exciting new courses, including:


KMTT

A new semester of KMTT is online now, with a half-hour daily of audio shiurim to accompany you while commuting or exercising, including shiurim from Rav Binyamin Tabory and Rav Ezra Bick. Check out the course offerings at www.kimitzion.org
On the first yahrzeit since the passing of Yeshivat Har Etzion’s founding Rosh Yeshiva, HaRav Yehuda Amital zt”l, hundreds of students, alumni and friends gathered for an evening of Torah study and memorial at the Yeshiva on Thursday, 26 Tammuz, June 28th.

In the first half of the evening, three shiurim were delivered by Roshei Yeshiva Rav Yaakov Medan, Rav Baruch Gigi and Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein, who shared HaRav Amital’s teachings on topics related to the Yamim Nora’im. Afterwards, three simultaneous shiurim took place on various aspects of Rav Amital’s ideological and social philosophy. They were delivered by HaRav Amital’s son-in-law, Rav Yehuda Gilad ’76H, Prof. Shalom Rosenberg and Prof. Binyamin Ish-Shalom ’72H.

A moving video made by talmidim was screened, after which the main memorial ceremony took place in the Beit Midrash. Rav Shlomo Brin’74H, son-in-law of HaRav Amital, moderated the event. Rosh Yeshiva HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein and Chairman of the Board Moshe Moskovic both shared memories and insights from their long, close relationships with HaRav Amital and the evening ended with learning of mishnayot in HaRav Amital’s memory by Rav Yirmi Stavisky ’82H, Principal of Himmelfarb Yeshiva High School in Jerusalem and Uri Ofan’92H, Director of the Chevruta Beit Midrash at Ben-Gurion University. The last mishna was recited by Yekutiel Fogelman, great-grandson of HaRav Amital, grandson of Rav Yoel Amital’70H.

On Friday (27 Tammuz), an azkara took place at the kever in Har HaMenuchot, Jerusalem.

A plaque was erected at HaRav Amital’s makom in the Beit Midrash to commemorate the spot where the Rosh Yeshiva zt”l was so often seen engrossed in his learning, and where his absence is so sorely felt.
Remembering HaRav Amital zt”l Around the World

NY - An inspirational and well-attended Yom Iyun entitled “Ve’Taher Libeinu – Purify our Hearts” was held at The Jewish Center in NY, jointly sponsored by Kehillath Jeshurun of NY and dedicated in memory of Menachem ben Bezalel Stern z”l.

Opening remarks were delivered by Rabbi Yosie Levine of The Jewish Center and Rabbi Haskel Lookstein of Kehillath Jeshurun and the Ramaz School, after which Rav Menachem Leibtag and Roshei Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein and Rav Baruch Gigi shared HaRav Amital’s teachings on the Yamim Norai’m.

South Africa - Rav Pini Cohen ’94 spoke at an evening of learning in HaRav Amital’s memory hosted by the Beit Mordechai Campus Kollel and Friends of Gush South Africa.

The Yeshiva mourns the loss of Rav Hanan Porat z”l (December 12, 1943/5704 – October 4, 2011/5772).

Rav Porat was among the founders and veteran educators of Yeshivat Har Etzion. He was also a charismatic Torah scholar, a political activist, Knesset member and icon of the settlement movement.

In 1948, Kfar Etzion was besieged and the women and children were evacuated to Jerusalem, including five-year-old Hanan. He often recalled gazing at the lone oak from afar during the difficult 19-year period after the fall of Gush Etzion. Porat served in the Paratroopers Brigade during the Six Day War and was among the troops that liberated the Temple Mount. After the Six Day War, he helped re-establish the Gush Etzion settlement bloc, and turned to HaRav Amital, urging him to establish a yeshiva there.

Rav Porat spoke at the Yeshiva’s 40th anniversary in 2008 and said, “From the time we returned to Kfar Etzion, it was clear to me that the Yeshiva was the essence, the most important thing.”

Porat was badly wounded in the Yom Kippur War, but after his recovery he helped found the Gush Emunim settlement movement. In the 1980’s and 90’s Porat served in the Knesset on behalf of various right wing parties. Throughout, he lived in his beloved Kfar Etzion. Porat is survived by his wife, Rachel, 10 children and 20 grandchildren.

The Yeshiva held a memorial service for Rav Hanan Porat z”l on the shloshim. Rosh Yeshiva Rav Yaakov Medan, Rav Yoel Bin Nun and Rav Elyashiv Knohl, YHE alumnus and Rabbi of Kfar Etzion, all spoke. They emphasized Porat’s strong belief that the return to Gush Etzion must be based on the foundation of Torah, his tenacity in establishing the Yeshiva and convincing HaRav Amital zt”l to be its Rosh Yeshiva and spiritual leader. Recordings from the azkara are available on the Yeshiva’s Hebrew website.

By Faith Alone: The Story of Rabbi Yehuda Amital

by Elyashiv Reichner, translated from Hebrew by Elli Fischer

Maggid/Koren Books, Jerusalem

This biography of Rosh Yeshiva HaRav Yehuda Amital follows him from his childhood in Eastern Europe through his experiences as a Holocaust survivor, young oleh, teacher, soldier, yeshiva founder, politician and always, a spiritual example.

From the Afterword:
“…there are times that a single, unique voice rises above the cacophony… Such was Rav Yehuda Amitals’s voice. Over the course of many years, this voice was virtually hidden, well known to his many students, but swallowed up in the tumult, and unnoticed by the public. When the noise of the crowd subsided a little, Rav Amital’s unique voice emerged and made itself heard – an original voice, pure and clear, voicing its unique sound in Halakha, Aggada and Jewish thought.”
2011 Trip to Poland

Just before Pesach, 30 Har Etzion talmidim participated in a journey to Poland, led by Rav Dr. Shalom Berger ’77, Rav Shlomo Brin ’74H and Rav Yair Kahn ’77. The group was joined by talmidim from Yeshivat Eretz HaTzvi and was accompanied by two outstanding YHE madrichim – Eitan Martin ’06H and Asher Fredman ’07H. The journey included an exploration of Jewish life in Poland before the war, meetings with some extraordinary people and dialogue with the current Polish Jewish community.

“We were fortunate to be joined by Rav Brin, whose father is a Holocaust survivor,” Rav Kahn said. “He was able to transmit his deep personal connection both to the grandeur of pre-war Poland and to the tragedy of the war years. His moving stories helped us to identify with past generations and view ourselves as continuing the mesora of Polish Jewry today, by choosing to study Torah and live a full Jewish life. Thanks to the staff, the parents and mostly to an extremely special group of talmidim, the trip to Poland was a profound and meaningful experience.”

Three fathers joined the trip to Poland: Bruce Newman, father of Zev ’10, Joseph Richter, father of Ben ’10 (and Alan ’08) and Dr. Ronald Nagel, father of Josh ’10 (and Zev ’00). Dr. Nagel shared his impressions of the trip in a heartfelt letter which we invite you to read on the Yeshiva website.

From Vilna to Har Etzion: Revelations of Eliyahu in Torah and Redemption

In June, the Har Etzion Library opened an exhibit on the Vilna Gaon which included some artifacts that had never been previously displayed in public. The exhibit, curated by Chief Librarian Aharon Bejell ’75, was made possible through the generous loan of many unique items from the private collection of Mr. Yeshayahu Vinograd of Jerusalem. Mr. Vinograd is a well-known bibliographer and collector, and a descendant of students of the GR“A who came to live in Eretz Yisrael in the early 19th century.

Through the diverse items on display, the exhibit illustrates that the Gaon was not only focused on the entirety of Torah literature, but was also intent on using his abilities to prepare the way for redemption.

A special feature of the exhibit was the Gaon’s very own copy of Masekhet Zera’im from the Jerusalem Talmud, which contains his handwritten comments and corrections. This volume was made available to the Yeshiva by the Ma’atikei HaShmu’ah Institute of Jerusalem. The masekhet was recently returned to the Institute, but visitors to the Yeshiva Library can view life-size color photographs of assorted pages, which are still on exhibit.

The exhibit attracted many visitors to the Yeshiva and engendered much discussion about the Gaon’s legacy of Torah and redemption. Many attendees commented on the aptness of exhibiting the rare collection at Yeshivat Har Etzion. For the full story and links to recordings and video see our website, www.haretzion.org.
Summer Study Days in Tanakh: Celebrating 20 Years!

The Summer Study Days in Tanakh of Herzog College celebrated its 20th anniversary this year with over 5,000 participants and 200 shiurim over the course of five days. Plus, there was a choice of ten Tanakh-based tiyulim on an additional day. Three of the five days had a full schedule of English classes, as well, and there was also an English tiyul option. Education Minister Gideon Sa’ar addressed one of the classes and congratulated Herzog College on its contribution in bringing Tanakh to all segments of Israeli society.

In celebration of the 20th year milestone, a festive opening ceremony was held in the Knesset, in conjunction with MK Uri Orbach, and attended by senior faculty members of the Yeshiva and Herzog College, public figures and friends. A special message from Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu was screened. “You have succeeded, over the course of 20 years of the annual Summer Study Days in Tanakh, in restoring the Book of Books to the public consciousness,” the Prime Minister said. “The stories of our forefathers, kings and prophets accompany us and influence us to this very day. I support your ongoing efforts to bringing the Tanakh closer to all avenues of the nation. In doing so, you enhance our strength as a nation and deepen our faith in the righteousness of our path.”

Herzog College’s commitment to Tanakh is, of course, year-round. It includes scores of academic courses for men and women, one-day seminars on a variety of topics, training sessions for contestants in Israel’s national Bible Quiz (Chidon Tanakh), and the College’s Tevunot Press puts out a vast array of publications that bring together Torah scholarship and academic research on the highest level. To read more about Herzog College’s publications, see the Tevunot publishing webpage (in Hebrew) at www.herzog.ac.il.

Answer: What did Gitta do with her prize money?

Last winter, Jewish educator Gitta Neufeld of Far Rockaway, NY was a contender on the popular TV game show Jeopardy. On the show, Gitta was seen moving her lips in prayer before the last category of questions was announced, and her prayers seem to have been answered because the category announced was “Bible.” The final challenge posed was “He is the prosecutor in the Book of Job” and Gitta’s winning response was, “Who is Satan?”

On the strength of her knowledge of Tanakh, Gitta won $20,000! After using her prize money to give tzedaka and gifts to her four children, Gitta decided to do something for herself. She used her remaining prize money to buy a ticket to Israel and attend the Summer Study Days in Tanakh, which she had dreamed of attending for many years. “I never imagined that the Study Days would be this amazing!” she said, promising to return again next summer. After all, you never know what can come of learning Tanakh…

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An Ongoing Commitment

Yeshivat Har Etzion’s Herzog College continues to expand and deepen its programs, as befits Israel’s premier teacher’s college. Rabbi Prof. Yitzhak Kraus, Director of the College, explains, “Although most people know us as the college that trains some of Israel’s most outstanding teachers, that’s only part of who we are. We see ourselves as strengthening Jewish life in Israel, and our commitment does not stop at graduation. We’re always looking for ways to improve our programs and support educators out in the field.” Some examples of how Herzog College is doing just that:

- The newly-established Bachelor’s degree in Special Education for young men is filling a yawning gap in the religious school system. The first class will be graduating this year, and many of the students have already been offered jobs.

- Gevanim, an innovative program in which 15 outstanding students a year are trained to teach in Israel’s non-religious state school system in a non-coercive, open manner that makes Jewish culture accessible to all.

- Avnei Rosha – A unique program to train and advance female school principals, improving the quality of education for girls and boys across the country.

- A new Training Course for Vice- Principals, which includes 40 vice-principals from the AMIT school system, aims to expand the role of vice principals so that in addition to coordinating logistics they can function as fully integrated educational figures in the school system.

Rabbi Prof. Kraus adds, “We don’t just release teachers into the school system, but continue to take responsibility for them, and to develop programming that will benefit Israeli society at large. This is what has made Herzog College the leading institution in Israeli education today.”

HERZOG COLLEGE (continued)

MIGDAL OZ

There’s been lots of change and growth this year at the Stella K. Abraham Beit Midrash for Women in Migdal Oz.

A new wing has been added to the Women’s Division of Herzog College, doubling the number of classrooms. The building is teeming with teachers-in-training, and more classrooms are scheduled to be added in the near future.

Miriam Coren, who headed the Overseas Program the past few years, is on shlichut in Philadelphia, PA this year and Racheli Schmell, formerly the senior madricha for the overseas students, is replacing her. There are 33 first-year students from abroad this year, and 5 second-year students. They join the 90 Israeli students learning in the Beit Midrash.

This winter the Midrasha is studying Bava Batra in the mornings, with evening study options in Tanakh, Jewish Thought and Masekhet Berakhot. New staff members include Yoetzet Halakha and recent olah from Teaneck, Shayna Lerner Goldberg, as well as several Migdal Oz alumnae who are now teaching Gemara.

Selichot & Yom Kippur

Selichot in Migdal Oz has become an event without parallel on the Israeli scene. Hundreds of women from across the country, as well as busloads of students from high schools and seminaries, all come to participate in the spirited and inspirational service which continues into the wee hours of the morning.

The selichot are preceded every evening by a shiur from Har Etzion and Migdal Oz faculty. Speakers this year included Rav Yitzchak Levi, Rav Moshe Taragin, Rav Amnon Bazak, Rav Shlomo Brin and Roshei Yeshiva Rav Yaakov Medan and Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein. The shiurim are followed by hours of singing and prayer.
One middle-aged participant explained what draws her back every year: “The shiur and selichot help me prepare spiritually for the Yamim Nora’im so much that, at this point, I can’t imagine going into Yom Tov without having been to Migdal Oz first. And obviously, I’m not the only one who feels that way. The combination of serious learning and religious devotion found at Migdal Oz is having a real, profound impact on the religious lives of women across Israel.”

The Midrasha also hosted many guests from abroad for its spirited Yom Kippur davening. Guests included Mindy Kolatch, mother of Dina ’04MO, Paula Weber, mother of Eli ’81 and Simi ’80 and grandmother of Rachel ’09MO and Rivka Kaminetsky ’11MO, and Chairman of the Board Arye ’81 and Bashi Colton.

To arrange a tour of the Midrasha next time you’re in Israel, contact Racheli Schmell at schmell.racheli@gmail.com

Nourishing Body & Soul

In July, a modern new kitchenette/lounge for students was dedicated at the Stella K. Abraham Beit Midrash for Women in Migdal Oz. The facility was generously donated by alumnus and board member Lior ’85H Arussy and his wife Drora, together with their family, in memory of their grandmother and great-grandmother Rina Giat z”l, wife of Zion Giat z”l and daughter of Rav Shalom Kessar z”l.

The dedication ceremony was attended by the extended Arussy family, Rosh Yeshiva Rav Baruch Gigi, Rav Amnon Bazak and Migdal Oz staff members. Lior Arussy and his mother, Yona Bar Ami, both spoke movingly about “Savta Rina” and her many acts of chessed, including providing food for poor people to enable them to study Torah. As such, the beautiful new facility, which physically nourishes the study of Torah in Eretz Yisrael, is a fitting tribute to her memory.

The Arussy family has a longstanding connection with Yeshivat Har Etzion and their daughter Dalya studied in Migdal Oz in 2009-10. Rav Gigi said, “Through the years, Lior Arussy has walked with the Yeshiva. He has been involved in its growth and development, and in furthering the goal of Torah study in Eretz Yisrael and the Yeshiva’s educational path. We are very grateful.”

Erev Shira v’Hitorerut in New Jersey

On Motzai Shabbat, September 24, over 150 people — alumnae, mothers, friends and women from the community — gathered at Ma’ayanot Yeshiva HS in Teaneck, NJ to sing songs and niggunim reminiscent of Migdal Oz. A visitor commented, “It was beautiful, inspirational and very moving.” At midnight, Michelle Greenberg-Kobrin, Dean of Students and Lecturer at Columbia Law School, gave a shiur entitled “Posting on God’s Wall: Selichot and Relationships in the Age of Social Media.”

A heartfelt singing of selichot capped off the evening.

Sharon Rifkind, Development Associate of the Etzion Foundation said, “It is inspiring to see the influence that Migdal Oz has had on so many bogrot, parents and friends. The Migdal Oz graduates are clearly carrying their experiences from Israel into their lives here, creating very meaningful learning and selichot for the entire community.”
On Yom Yerushalyim, May 31, 2001, over 400 members of the Gush family gathered in NYC for the Etzion Foundation Annual Dinner. The program paid tribute to the memory of founding Rosh Yeshiva HaRav Yehuda Amital zt”l, and honored alumni and parents Drs. Mort ’75 and Esther Fridman of Teaneck, NJ and Jay ’80 and Dr. Rachel Jubas of Stamford, CT. The Fridmans are the parents of Ari ’02 (Shana Bet), Daniel ’02, Michael ’10 and Elisheva. Jay and Rachel Jubas are the parents of Ben ’08, Talia ’11MO, Daniel and Maya.

A video about HaRav Amital’s derekh, “Commitment and Complexity,” was screened and Rosh Yeshiva HaRav Aharon Lichtenstein spoke about the impact that HaRav Amital had on his life, and on the lives of thousands of others. There was also a video presentation titled “Generation to Generation” which retold the story of “Hearing the Baby Cry” that HaRav Amital famously used to tell talmidim, a story which exemplifies the importance he put on the balance between learning Torah and contributing to society.

Dinner attendees were honored by the participation of Rabbanit Miriam Amital and her daughter Tali Brin. Rabbanit Amital shared inspiring words of gratitude and her presence contributed greatly to the evening.

The Etzion Foundation presented a silver Omer Counter to each of the honored couples in appreciation of their generosity and continued support of the Yeshiva.

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The new English biography of HaRav Amital, By Faith Alone: The Story of Rabbi Yehuda Amital, was given out at the dinner. The book was dedicated by the Moed family in tribute to HaRav Amital, his vision, ideology and warmth, and in honor of Leon Moed and his longtime bond of friendship with HaRav Amital.

Yoel Weiss, Etzion Foundation Director, commented that “this special occasion was a most fitting tribute to Rav Amital z”tl, whose teachings and leadership touched and inspired so many people around the world. We are grateful to the honorees, alumni, parents and friends who made this year’s dinner a great success!”
September in New York

Over the weekend of September 17-20, Roshei Yeshiva Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein and Rav Baruch Gigi spent a busy four days in the New York area. Highlights of the trip included:

- A highly successful Shabbaton at Yeshiva University with over 200 participants
- A lovely seuda shlishit with Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein hosted by Yair '98 and Talia Hindin in Washington Heights for bogrim, bogrot and their spouses
- An inspirational and well-attended Yom Iyun at The Jewish Center in NY which delved into the teachings of HaRav Yehuda Amital z”l on the Days of Awe (see p. 3 for details)
- An intimate lunch hosted by Donny Rosenberg ’02 at his office in Manhattan, with Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein, Rav Gigi and the Yeshiva’s CEO, Yoni Holzer, who spoke about current events at the Yeshiva and its plans for the future

The trip concluded with an Etzion Foundation Board meeting at which Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein, Rav Baruch Gigi, and Yoni Holzer gave an update from Israel on the Yeshiva, Migdal Oz and Herzog College.

Shabbaton at Yeshiva University

This year’s annual New York Shabbaton, attended by over 200 participants, was a great success. The Roshei Yeshiva shared meals with the students, held a lively and spirited tish on Friday night, gave shiurim throughout Shabbat, and just generally had a wonderful time reconnecting with alumni in a fun, relaxed setting.

One of the participants shared an impression that was echoed by many others: “The Shabbaton was an inspiring event full of ruach, camaraderie, and reunion with the Roshei Yeshiva and fellow alumni. The experience of multiple generations of Gush talmidim eating, singing, and learning together, along with the rest of the YU community, was especially meaningful, and I hope to be at many more such Shabbatonim in the future.”

Visit of Rabbi Reuven and Leah Bulka

Rabbi Reuven and Leah Bulka visited the Yeshiva Library in September to view the Rabbi Dr. Noah H. Rosenbloom Collection, which contains over 700 volumes from Rabbi Rosenbloom’s personal library, and was donated to the Yeshiva by daughters Leah Bulka and Michelle Gorman. Rabbi Rosenbloom z”l was the beloved pulpit rabbi of the B’nai Israel Jewish Centre of East Flatbush, NY for over 50 years, a professor at Stern College and the author of several books.

When their shul faced a changed neighborhood demographic in the late 60’s, Rabbi Rosenbloom z”l, together with Saul Nack z”l and Sydney Goldner z”l, ensured that all klei kodesh were transferred to Eretz Yisrael and that 100% of the income from the property went to tzedaka. Rabbi Rosenbloom’s lifelong support of Yeshivat Har Etzion and friendship with founder Moshe Moskovic, was a model of shared vision, deep mutual admiration, and abiding respect. We are honored to house this testimony to his heritage.
Lunch & Learn

In May, Terry Novetsky ’80 hosted Rav Yoel Bin Nun at the offices of Kaye Scholer LLP in NYC, where he spoke to graduates from Har Etzion and Migdal Oz on “The Red Heifer: Why in Sefer Bamidbar and not Sefer Vayikra?”

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

Tobi Kahn ’72 was showcased at two recent exhibits. An installation at the Ernest Rubenstein Gallery in NY titled “Embodied Light: 9-11 in 2011” commemorated the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and ran until Nov 23rd. “Aligned: Paintings by Tobi Kahn” is at the University of Maryland until Dec. 9 and features 33 works from his “Sky and Water” series.

Rabbi Herzl Hefter ’75, Rosh Yeshiva of Har’El Yeshiva. The new yeshiva, opening in Elul 5772, is geared to post-collegiate young men aged 21-30 and located in the Old City of Jerusalem. For more information see www.har-el.org

Rabbi Daniel Roselaar ’87 is the newly appointed Rosh Kollel of the Kinloss Community Kollel. The Kollel was established by Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis ’77, Senior Rabbi at Finchley Synagogue in London, UK.

Rabbi Jeffrey Kobrin ’92, currently Middle School Principal at North Shore Hebrew Academy, Long Island, NY will assume the title of Rosh HaYeshiva/Head of School in the 2012-13 academic year.

Shawn Ruby ’94, after working in hi-tech for 15 years, is leaving his job to study for semikha at Yeshivat Ma’ale Gilboa.

Rabbi David Katz ’95 is founder of Sicha Basadeh, a “mobile factory” that provides experiential learning to enhance understanding of biblical and halakhic texts, such as the production of natural olive oil, honey, bread and more. See www.sichabasadeh.com

Rabbi Hillel Maizels ’95, Ram at Yeshiva High School “Shalhevet” in Shoham, and Rabbi of Kehillat Ohel Ephraim in Ariel.

Rabbi Josh Rosenzweig ’95, teaching at Yeshivat Eretz HaZvi, Jerusalem.

Rabbi Ezra Frazer ’96, Instructor of Hebrew and Assistant Coordinator of Hebrew Program at YU (Yeshiva College).

Rabbi Gideon Black ’01, Rabbi of JLIC (Jewish Learning Initiative on Campus) at New York University.

Rabbi Tzvi Urkowitz ’03, recently received his ordination from YU and is now teaching at Fuchs Mizrachi School in Cleveland, OH.

Raphy Rosen ’06, recently graduated from Columbia University, is a recipient of a GiveBack Fellowship and teaching at Fuchs Mizrachi in Cleveland, OH. The fellowship program places dynamic college graduates in American Jewish day schools for a year.
**Bat Mitzva Program**

In May, 60 alumni and their bat mitzva age daughters participated in the third Bat Mitzva Program. The program began at the Stella K. Abraham Beit Midrash for Women in Migdal Oz, where fathers and daughters studied sources together in preparation for a shiur by Rav Moshe Taragin, which was followed by a discussion with the Rosh Midrasha, Esti Rozenberg. Afterwards, the girls enjoyed a musical workshop with students of the Midrasha while the fathers engaged in a discussion with Esti Rozenberg.

Rosh Yeshiva Rav Yaakov Medan spoke with the group about the history and significance of Gush Etzion and they then traveled to the Yeshiva where they met with the other Roshei Yeshiva and were served a festive lunch. The program ended with an educational treasure hunt in the library.

**Alumni Shabbaton** for Machzor 30, who entered the Yeshiva in 1998, and their families was held in the Yeshiva in the summer. A highlight of the Shabbat was a lively discussion with Rav Hillel Rachmani and Rav Amnon Bazak about how to merge the world of the Yeshiva with family and professional life.

**Book launches**, consisting of short shiurim accompanied by musical interludes, were held for alumni and their wives on the occasion of the publication of Rosh HaShana – Be’er Miriam (in Hebrew). This is the first of a series of 10 books on Jewish holidays planned to be published by Yeshivat Har Etzion and Yediot Acharonot Press, and edited by Rosh Yeshiva Rav Yaakov Medan. The series is dedicated to the memory of Miriam Blau z”l by the Blau family, whose son Yitzhak Blau ‘82H studied in the Yeshiva. The first book launch was held in Tel Aviv on September 22nd and the second was held in Jerusalem on September 25th.

**Life Cycles Series for Alumni in central Israel**

Over the course of last year, a series of shiurim took place at various shuls in Ra’anana by Roshei Yeshiva Rav Baruch Gigi and Rav Moshe Lichtenstein, and by Rav Amnon Bazak and Rav Moshe Taragin. This year, the Yeshiva is expanding these activities to five series of shiurim to be delivered by Ramim of the Yeshiva. Details are available on the Yeshiva website.

**Other upcoming events include Chanuka Study Days**, on December 21 and 22 on the topic of Jewish Leadership, sponsored by Revava: The Riva Koschitzky z”l Torah Enrichment Program, and an Alumni Shabbaton for Machzorim 7-8 (that is, talmidim who began their studies in 1975 or ’76) to take place in February.
RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Mevakshi Panekha: Discussions with Harav Aharon Lichtenstein
by Rav Chaim Sabato (in Hebrew)
Yediot Aharonot Books
Available from www.mintzers.co.il
In this book, Rav Chaim Sabato, award-winning writer and Rosh Yeshiva of Birkhat Moshe, the Hesder Yeshiva of Ma’ale Adumim, interviews Rosh HaYeshiva HaRav Lichtenstein on a wide variety of issues. The two talmidei chakhamim discuss the value of non-Jewish literature, the legacy of Rav Soloveitchik zt”l, Torah learning for women, the role of Kabbala, the Brisker method and more. The encounter between the Cairo-born scholar steeped in Syrian tradition and the American-born, Lithuanian-style rabbi seems to have intrigued the public; the book has become a runaway bestseller and already gone into reprint.

L’Ovdekha B’Emet
Edited by Rav Reuven Ziegler and Rav Reuven Gafni (in Hebrew)
YHE and Maggid/Koren Books
A collection of 70 essays which shed light on Harav Ami tal’s vision, philosophy and leadership style, all of which enabled him to be so influential on the national level in Israel, within Religious Zionist circles, and in the individual lives of the thousands who knew him.

Torah MiEtzion: New Readings in Tanach, Vol. 1 Bereshit by Yeshivat Har Etzion
Maggid/Koren Books
Torah MiEtzion presents original, insightful essays on Tanakh by the rabbeim of Yeshivat Har Etzion. Since its founding, the Yeshiva has emphasized Tanakh study alongside Talmud study in order to foster what Rosh HaYeshiva HaRav Yehuda Amital zt”l, called an organic understanding of Torah and Tanakh philosophy. The result has been the development of a unique, analytically rigorous, creative interpretive method that is infused with a profound quest for meaning. This first volume of Torah MiEtzion, which examines the Torah portions of the Book of Bereshit, includes essays by Rabbis Aharon Lichtenstein, Menachem Leibtag, Chanoch Waxman, Yoel Bin Nun, Elchanan Samet, Yonatan Grossman, Yair Kahn, Yaakov Medan and other leading scholars from Yeshivat Har Etzion.

In His Mercy: Understanding the Thirteen Midot by Rav Ezra Bick
Maggid/Koren Books
Each year on Yom Kippur, fast days, and the days leading up to the High Holidays, Jews around the world repeatedly recite the Thirteen Midot, or Attributes of God. In His Mercy examines each of the thirteen attributes and their philosophical underpinnings through the lenses of the Talmud, the Midrash and major commentaries. The book is based on lectures given by Rav Bick at Yeshiva.

Varieties of Jewish Experience
by Rav Aharon Lichtenstein
Ktav Publishing
In this book, Rosh Yeshiva Harav Aharon Lichtenstein addresses crucial issues facing contemporary Jews – including spirituality, marriage, fear of Heaven, egalitarianism, philanthropy, Religious Zionism and inter-denominational relations – with his characteristic blend of depth, scope, erudition, eloquence, and profound moral and religious sensitivity.

Genesis and Jewish Thought
by Rav Chaim Navon
Ktav Publishing
This book explores fundamental philosophical and theological issues arising in the Book of Genesis. It presents the richness of Jewish thought and notes its uniqueness in comparison with other approaches. Some of the topics addressed include religion and science, commandment and morality, individual and society, faith, guilt, evil and equality.

Moses: Envoy of God, Envoy of his People
by Rav Mosheh Lichtenstein
Ktav Publishing
Translated by Perry Zamek
This book follows the path of Moshe’s development as a leader, from a young lad in Egypt until his farewell address to his flock. All of the relevant episodes are examined through a literary analysis of the text that attempts to delve into the inner world of the leader and his interactions with the people. The result is a Midrashic interpretation that combines textual analysis and emotional insight.

Please note: Har Etzion and VBM students are eligible for a 25% discount from Maggid/Koren Books and a 20% discount from Ktav Publishing. See www.haretzion.org for more information.
ALUMNI NEWS

Marriages
Dov Lapin ’81 and Chevy Greenwald
Avi Ray ’98 and Miriam Lederman
Eli Cohn ’00 and Ilana Levin
Jeremy Levy ’00 and Lisa Seifman
Yonatan Shai Freedman ’01 and Rachel Franklin, Ori Shalem, St. Ives, Australia
Aharon ’94 and Adena Frazer, Avichai Eitan, Alon Shevut
Richard ’95 and Ani Katz, Rami and Tamar Asaf
Kalmuk (Vigi) Katlowitz ’07 and Naomi Levin ’07MO
David Baigel ’07 and Miriam Burns

Marriages of Children
Menachem ’72 and Rina Schrader on the marriage of their son Yechiel to Chava Janovsky
Zvi ’74 and Rachel Bessin on the marriage of their son Daniel to Esti Biton
Shlomo ’75 and Chevich Schrader on the marriage of their daughter Shoshie to Dov Gropper
Dr. Joel ’75 and Martha Fredman on the marriage of their son Asher ’06 to Elisheva Shultz
Dr. Michael ’75 and Batsheva Goldenhersh and Dr. Maier ’80 and Judi Becker on the marriage of their children, Rivka and Yaakov ’06H
Rav Binny ’81 and Doravit Freedman on the marriage of their daughter Maayan to Eliel Blum
Alan ’82 and Tzafirah Wecker on the marriage of their son Yekutiel to Shira Gutfeld
Moshe ’84 and Rebecca Linzer on the marriage of their daughter Aderet to Yehonatan Shatz
Mazal Tov to Orna and Yoni Holzer, CEO of Yeshivat Har Etzion, on the marriage of their son Ariel to Efrat Rosenberg

Births
Assaf ’88 and Leora Bednarsh, Ruchama Leah, Alon Shevut
Dov ’89 and Tunie Schorr, Yonatan Ron, Jerusalem
Yakir ’93 and Rachel Franklin, Ori Shalem, St. Ives, Australia
Raphi ’93 and Yonit Schorr, Eliana Pearl, Brookline, MA
Riki ’93 and Esther Hiday, Zechariah, Brooklyn, NY
Asher ’93 and Anat Alshul, Yinon Yehuda, Jerusalem
Aharon ’94 and Adena Frazer, Avichai Eitan, Alon Shevut
Yehuda ’95 and Michelle Sarna, Gershon Amital, NYC
Yehuda ’95 and Orit Seif, Yakir Yehasha, Bala Cynwyd, PA
Micky ’95 and Rena Siev, Yedidya, Ramat Beit Shemesh
Ari ’95 and Aviva Heller, David, Jerusalem
Dov ’95 and Ginat Friedman, Amitai Tuvia, Hong Kong
Dov ’95 and Shani Daniel, Adina Talia, Bala Cynwyd, PA
Benjamin ’96 and Yael Resnick, Noam Amichai, Valley Village, CA
Shmuel ’96 and Litza Jackman, Avigail, Neve Daniel
Marc ’97 and Heidi Romain, Amichai, Jerusalem
Yakov ’97 and Estee Fleischmann, Noam Elyashiv, Beachwood, OH
Abe ’98 and Kathy Mezrich, Ezra Yehuda, NYC
Josh ’98 and Tova Lennon, Ezra Hillel, Skokie, IL
Aaron ’98 and Leora Leib, Dov Shlomo, Southfield, MI
Sammy ’98 and Rachel Groner, Merav Ashira, Riverdale, NY
Sholem ’98 Kollel and Rochie Hurwitz, Oriya Elishewa, Neve Daniel
Yehuda ’98 and Elissa Chanales, Akiva Amichai, Bergenfield, NJ

Jonny ’98 and Gaby Steel, Gil Yitzhak, Modin
Yaki ’99 and Adina Rydzinski, Yonatan Eliazer, NYC
Yonatan ’99 and Shira Wiesen, Tzvi Yaakov, Beachwood, OH
Aaron ’00 and Leah Cypess, David Eliyahu, Boston, MA
Trevor ’00 and Leah Silverman, Eli Simcha, London, England
Arye ’00(‘07-current) and Aliza Sokol, Yonatan Yosef, Alon Shevut
Natan ’01 and Daniella Rickman, Michal Hodaya, Modin
Baruch ’01 and Emma Baigel, Sara Lilly, Jerusalem
Ryan ’01 and Rosy Hollander, Nachshon, Johannesburg, South Africa
Ari ’01 and Stacey Lane, Chanan Azarya, Teaneck, NJ
Josh ’02 and Rebecca Trachtman, Dvora Chana (Elonor Deborah), Riverdale, NY
Avi ’02 and Mori Anouchi, Ayelet Irit, Givat Shemesh
Noah ’02 and Nava Greenfeld, Judah Alan, Berkeley, CA
Bernard ’02 and Abigail Freudenthal, Miriam Yehudit, London, England
Eitan ’02 and Sarah Bengal, Leba Hadassah (Dassi), NYC
Noah ’02 and Aliza Gardenswartz, Zev Zecharya, Bronx, NY
Daniel ’02 and Deganit Rand, Ayala Rivka, Revava
Aaron ’02 and Miriam Frolich, Aderet Chana, Givat Shmuel
Danny ’03 and Althea Mirvis, Rephael Nechemia, Alon Shevut
Daniel ’03 and Andy Kaplan, Yishai Lev, Alon Shevut
Daniel ’05 and Tamar Kahn, Shmuel Yehuda, Givat Shmuel
David ’06 and Ariel Pardo, Haviva Neima, Jerusalem
Russell ’07K and Miriam Levy, Ezra Nachum, Ra’anana
Mazal Tov to Executive Vice President of Etzion Foundation, Yoel and Zimriah Weiss on the birth of Sarah Nava
Mazal Tov to David (former Madrich of Darkaynu Program) and Rachel Schmell, Director of Overseas Program at Migdal Oz, on
Births of Grandchildren

David ‘74 and Joyce Friedman on the birth of Dvora Chana (Elinor Deborah) and to parents Josh ‘02 Friedman and Rebecca Trachtman

Zvi ‘74 and Rachel Bessin on the birth of Yael Moledet and to parents, Tamar and Eytan Rund

Shlomo ‘75 and Chevye Schrader on the birth of Eliah Elazar, and to parents, Yair and Tzvia Schrader

Rav Joshua ‘75 and Shira Schreier on the birth of Tiferet, and to parents Nomi and Avishai Magence ‘05K

Rav Moshe ‘76H and Deena Aberman on the birth of their first grandchild, Noam Yair, and to parents Tzvi ‘07H and Yehudit Aberman

Rabbi Ephraim ‘76 and Valerie Mirvis on the birth of Rephael Nechemia, and to parents Danny ‘03 and Althea Mirvis

Shmuel ‘76 and Shainde Sohn on the birth of Shuvi Leah, and to parents Aderet and Binyamin Kopp

Irv ‘79 and Debbie Chriott on the birth of their first grandchild, Deena, and to parents Shmuel and Gali Chriott

Rav Joel ‘80 and Donna Zeff on the birth of Ayelet Ahava, and to parents Chana and Uri Yaakov ‘06H Biran

David ‘81 and Debra Fischman on the birth of their first grandchild, Miriam Ayelet, and to parents Gililt and Yair Manas

Dr. Beni ‘81 and Nadine Gesundheit on the birth of Arielle, and to parents Oriya and Daniel Baruchi

David ‘82 and Tova Kestenberg on the birth of Dagan Pinchas, and to parents Daniella and Amit Nistenpover

Rafi ‘82PC and Mona Blumberg on the birth of Yehuda Chai and to parents Ze’ev and Mati Blumberg

Alan ‘82 and Tzafirra Wecker on the birth of twin grandchildren, Yair and Eitam and to parents Yehuda and Sari Noiman

Mazal Tov to Rav Ezra and Itta Bick on the birth of Shachar Tzviya to Batsheva and Ro’i Stern.

Mazal Tov to Rabbanit Miriam Amital on the birth of a great-grandson, Odeya Chessed, to Nadav and Hadassa Gilad, and on the birth of a great-granddaughter, Noa, to Anat and Yaron Schachar.

Mazal Tov to Harav Aharon and Dr. Tovah Lichtenstein on the birth of a great-granddaughter, Ayelet Ahava, granddaughter to Rav Mayer ‘81H and Michal Biran Lichtenstein.

Bar/Bat Mitzva

Aharon Wolf (Rav Danny ‘75 and Susan), Alon Shevut

Matanya Yitzchak Bejjel (Aharon ‘75 and Leora), Efrat

Yehoshua (Shuie) Binyamin Berger (Rav Michael ‘80 and Elisehva), Atlanta, GA

Binyamin Novetsky (Terry ‘80 and Gail), Teaneck, NJ

Menachem Becker (Maier ‘80 and Judi), Efrat

Yair Freedman (Rav Dovin ‘81 and Doreet), Efrat

Netanel Rubin (Sammy ‘84 and Jamie), London

Eli Amaru (Rav Josh ‘85 and Ruthie), Alon Shevut

Netanel Arussy (Lior ‘85H and Drora), Fair Lawn, NJ

Sara Hanna Teitelman (Rav Lawrence ‘85 and Nehama), New Hyde Park, NY

Sophie Zimbalist (David ‘86 and Julia), Scarsdale, NY

Mordechai Pinchas Blau (Rav Yitzchak ‘86 and Noa Jeselsohn), Alon Shevut

Eliezer Meth (Uri ‘87 and Devorah), Baltimore, MD

Doron Yehiel Eisen (David ‘88 and Sara), Beit Shemesh

Hillel Chaim Samuels (Rav Benjamin ‘86 and Stephanie), Newton, MA

Evyassaf Pinchas Horovitz (Rav Jonny ‘86 and Michal), Elazar

Shira Brofsky (Rav David ‘90 and Mali), Alon Shevut

Shmuel Klein ‘90 and Devorah), Baltimore, MD

Doron Yehiel Eisen (David ‘88 and Sara), Beit Shemesh

Shira Brofsky (Rav David ‘90 and Mali), Alon Shevut

Hillel Amitai Debow (Rav David ‘90 and Yocheved), Alon Shevut

Gabrielle Safier (Yaakov ‘91 and Tanya), Bergenfield, NJ

Eitan ‘00 and Naomi Feinmesser, Modiin

Jamie ‘00 and Naomi Feinmesser, Modiin

Ollie ‘04 PC and Shulie Harris, Ramat Beit Shemesh

Daniel ‘05 and Tamar Kahn, Givat Shmuel

Eitan ‘07, Ramat Beit Shemesh

Condolences

Dr. Andrew Klein ‘75 on the loss of his mother, Mrs. Esther Klein z”l

Dr. Shimshon ‘77 and Yoni ‘82 Schwartz on the loss of their father, Rabbi Netanel Schwartz z”l

David ‘77 and Rav Ari Shames ‘86 on the loss of their father, Mr. Motty Shames z”l

Yosef Winiarz Yeinan ‘77 on the loss of his father, Mr. Chiya Kehat Winiarz z”l

Ayeh Fund ‘78 on the loss of his mother, Mrs. Norma Fund z”l

Dr. Neal Lehrman ‘86 on the loss of his mother, Mrs. Deborah Lehrman, Esq. z”l

Yishai Klein ‘91 on the loss of his father, Mr. Shmuel Klein z”l

Rabbi Barry Kornblau ‘96 K on the loss of his mother, Mrs. Lois Kornblau z”l

Rabbi Aaron Leib ‘98 on the loss of his father, Mr. Barry Leib z”l

Rosh Yeshiva Rav Baruch Gigi on the loss of his father, Reb Yaakov Gigi z”l

Faye Landes, on the loss of her mother, Mrs. Rachelle Rosenberg Isserow z”l

Rochelle Major on the loss of her father, Emanuel Stern z”l (grandfather of Sammy ‘12)

Rabbi Ephraim ‘76 and Valerie Mirvis, Hillel ‘01, Daniel ‘03, Noam ‘05 and Eitan ‘07 on the loss of their daughter and sister, Leora Graham z”l, after a lengthy illness which she fought with deep faith and courage. Sincerest condolences to husband Jonathan and children Kinneret and Elitzur.

Mazal Tov to Rav Danny and Tova Rhein

Mazal Tov to Rav Amram Leima on the birth of Shira Yaffa, granddaughter to Rav Yossi Shemesh.

Mazal Tov to Rav Nachman el Amram on the birth of Shira Yaffa, granddaughter to Rav Yossi Shemesh.

Mazal Tov to Rav Yonah Amram Leima on the birth of Shira Yaffa, granddaughter to Rav Yossi Shemesh.

Mazal Tov to Rav Shmuel Amram Leima on the birth of Shira Yaffa, granddaughter to Rav Yossi Shemesh.

Mazal Tov to Rav Yosef Amram Leima on the birth of Shira Yaffa, granddaughter to Rav Yossi Shemesh.

Mazal Tov to Rav Yisrael Amram Leima on the birth of Shira Yaffa, granddaughter to Rav Yossi Shemesh.

Mazal Tov to Rav Moshe Amram Leima on the birth of Shira Yaffa, granddaughter to Rav Yossi Shemesh.

Mazal Tov to Rav Yitzchak Amram Leima on the birth of Shira Yaffa, granddaughter to Rav Yossi Shemesh.

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IDF Honors

Prior to Yom HaAtzma’ut, three Yeshiva talmidim were named “Outstanding Soldiers.” Congratulations to:

Menachem Edelman ’06H – Intelligence Corps, Southern Command
Ro’i Vekart ’06H – Logistics & Planning
Chananel Ehrman ’06H – Central Command. Chananel also received an accelerated promotion.

Dovid Kleid ’06–’11 of the Darkaynu Program received a Medal of Recognition from Chatmar Etzion, the local army base, for his dedicated volunteer service there.

A talmid of Yeshivat Har Etzion currently serving in the navy was recently featured in the IDF magazine BaMachaneh.

An elevator was added to the Yeshiva building this summer, joining the area near the Library with the auditorium. The installation of this elevator completes the process begun several years ago, to render the Yeshiva and Herzog College campus completely wheelchair accessible. Thank you again to Elii ’92 and Efrat Schorr for spearheading this effort.

A film crew from the Korean Broadcasting System visited the Beit Midrash in November to film a segment for a documentary about different methods of education around the world.

To make your tax-exempt donation before the end of the year, please contact any of our offices:

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