



## **Replacement Child: A Memoir**

By *Judy Mandel*

Schlesinger Books, 2009; 249 pages. \$16.95

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■ In this non-fiction tale, Newington resident Judy Mandel describes being born into a family that had survived the death of a child. Through a horrendous accident, Mandel's older sister died before she was born. The author explores the separation between "before and after" and describes **the sister she never knew but whose presence was always felt**. This touching tale of healing and understanding explores the some- times unconscious expectations of love and the long-term impact on family in the aftermath of tragedy.