

# **Merrick, Papsin Run To Roxbury Winners Circle**

**ROXBURY --** The male season champion for the last three years and the female winner of the most recent race in the weekly series took the laurels in Roxbury over a 3.7-mile run.

**Ken Merrick** of New Fairfield was the overall winner with a 23-minute, 28-second clocking – 6:21 per mile – Saturday, March 28, on the layout, which included a trek down the long incline on Ranney Hill Road and up the steep hill on Chalybes Road.

**Ryan Ripp** was second in 25:15.

**Leah Papsin**, a native of Morris and former University of Connecticut-Storrs soccer player, led the female division and placed fifth overall in 25:37. She also had prevailed among the females March 14 over a 2.4-mile loop.

The series will continue Saturday, April 4, at 8:30 a.m. with a jaunt over the same 3.7-mile course, except in the opposite direction. There will be no entry fee.

The 25<sup>th</sup> annual Larry Kershner MidSpring Challenge will be held Saturday, May 2, at 8:30 a.m. The \$5 entry fee can be paid that morning from 7 to 8:20, with proceeds going to the Roxbury park improvement fund.

The top overall male and top overall female finisher will each receive a \$10 gift certificate to an area running store.

The event is named after a former head director of the series.

The races, which are sanctioned by the Roxbury Recreation Commission, start and finish near the Everett Hurlburt Community Park at 18 Apple Lane.

For further information, contact Scott Benjamin, the head director, at (860) 354-3521, [ScottBenjaminWCSU2014@gmail.com](mailto:ScottBenjaminWCSU2014@gmail.com) or access [www.roxburyraces.net](http://www.roxburyraces.net).