

# *Mercurieff heads AWARE*

Rinna E. Mercurieff of St. Paul Island has been selected executive director of Juneau's AWARE Inc. — Aiding Women from Abuse and Rape Emergencies.

Mercurieff replaces Caren Robinson, a co-founder of AWARE who has served as executive director since 1978. Robinson resigned in August to pursue other career interests.

Mercurieff, 35, is the former executive director of the Association for Stranded Rural Alaskans in Anchorage, a statewide social services agency which she founded in 1981 to assist rural Alaskans visiting and living in Alaska's largest city.

Her responsibilities at that organization included financial management, program planning and development, public relations, personnel management and fundraising.

Mercurieff received a master's degree in public administration in June from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and

since then has been working as deputy director of the Social Services Department for the City of St. Paul, the village in which she grew up.

She also worked for the Aleutian/Pribilof Islands Association in Anchorage as resource coordinator for the Alcoholism Program, as well as executive secretary and community health representative.

Mercurieff earned an associate of arts degree in business administration from the University of Alaska-Anchorage in 1975. She has served on numerous boards and commissions, including the Anchorage Equal Rights Commission, the Aleutian Housing Authority, the Anchorage Municipal Health Commission and the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Crime Commission.

AWARE Inc. provides comprehensive services to women and children who are victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse.