

## Laura Cardillo of Hillsborough is honored as 'Nurse of the Year'

Hunterdon County Democrat By Hunterdon County Democrat

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Laura Cardillo of Hillsborough was honored as 'Nurse of the Year.'  
(courtesy photo)

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When thinking of a nurse, what comes to mind? Most likely, it's an image of a competent, caring professional who is educated, highly skilled, and dedicated. This description, and more, perfectly fits Laura Cardillo, RN, CDP, CVW, and Director of Nursing at the Avalon Assisted Living Residence in Hillsborough, since its opening in 2006.

A former resident of Bridgewater, Laura now resides in Hillsborough. A registered nurse for twenty-three years, she is also a Certified Dementia Practitioner, Certified Validation Worker, and Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Support Group Facilitator.

"I cannot see myself working anywhere else but in this type of environment," Laura proudly states. "I treat all of the residents here like they are a family member, with the dignity and respect they deserve."

On Oct. 5 at the National Center for Assisted Living conference in National Harbor, Md., Laura was honored as Nurse of the Year. This program recognizes assisted living employees from around the country who demonstrate exemplary work within the profession.

Other accomplishments include her program for National Alzheimer's and Staff Education Week in February, which won a first place award for The Avalon at Hillsborough from the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners. She organized an exciting week for employees, residents and family members, with speakers, interactive classes and a formal proclamation from the Mayor.

In addition, Cardillo was chosen as a finalist as Nurse of the Year by for NJ Biz Healthcare Heroes program in June. This award honors individuals and organizations that are making a significant impact on the quality of health care in New Jersey.

"We are so proud of Laura and her accomplishments; this is a well-deserved award..."

Don Pelligrino, Owner /CEO of Bridgeway Senior Healthcare.

Family owned and operated for over 33 years, both The Avalon and Bridgeway Care & Rehabilitation Center offer Memory Care Programs for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other memory impairments. Their leaders and staff are passionate about dementia education and care, and are focused on preserving each resident's dignity, independence, and choice. For more information about the Avalon Assisted Living & Bridgeway Care & Rehabilitation Centers, visit [www.BridgewaySeniorCare.com](http://www.BridgewaySeniorCare.com)

