



BHC-MSS 0279
Guide to the John C. Mandanici Newspaper Clippings Collection
By Jaime Pettit
December 2025

Descriptive Summary

Creator: John C. Mandanici

Title: John C. Mandanici Newspaper Clippings Collection

Dates: 1975-1981

Quantity: 2 document boxes

Abstract: John Mandanici served as mayor of Bridgeport from 1975-1981. While Mandanici was able to make positive change within Bridgeport, his administration is primarily known for corruption scandals, with various members of his administration charged. This included an FBI sting on Police Chief Joe Walsh for corruption charges. Material provides a fleeting snapshot of some of Mandanici's actions as mayor, including election material, correspondence, and additional select material donated by Mandanici himself.

Collection Number: BHC-MSS 0274

Language: English

Repository: Bridgeport History Center

Biographical Information or Administrative History

John Mandanici (January 1, 1918-January 7, 1986) served as mayor of Bridgeport from 1975-1981. A born and bred Bridgeporter, he attended Central High School, worked at the downtown A&P grocery store, and would not enter politics until 1969.

A lifelong democrat, Mandanici's first political office was that of City Clerk in 1969. He progressed to mayor in 1975, an office which he held until 1981 when he lost to Leonard Paoletta. While Mandanici was able to make positive change within Bridgeport, his administration is primarily known for corruption scandals, with various members of his administration charged. This included an FBI sting on Police Chief Joe Walsh for corruption charges. Correspondence regarding this is present in the collection.

Scope and Content Note

The scope and content note exists to describe the contents of the collection itself. This can include subject matter covered, genre (i.e. letters, journals etc.) and key historical points in time that the collection might address. In short, this should provide a good overview of what's inside for the sake of the research public.

Arrangement Note

The original arrangement of Mandanici's clipping collection was found in has been preserved for researchers, as it was likely originally arranged by Mandanici himself. The collection is arranged alphabetically by subject and chronologically when more than one folder on the subject is present.

Name and Subject Tracings

Personal names

Mandanici, John C.

Corporate names

Bridgeport (Conn.)

Subject headings

Mayors

Newspapers

Administrative Information

Preferred citation

John C. Mandanici Newspaper Clippings Collection, BHC-MSS 0274, Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

Provenance: Donor name and accession number

Detailed Description of Records/Container List

Each box and folder is listed in numerical order. Series and subseries are noted. It should display as follows:

Box 1

1. ABCD 1976-1978
2. ABCD 1978-1979-1980-1981
3. ABCD 1978-1979-1980-1981
4. ABCD 1978-1979-1980-1981
5. ACORN
6. Affirmative Action Committee
7. Air Pollution Task Force
8. Airport
9. Alcoholism
10. Ambulances
11. Appointments – New
12. Appointments – Old
13. Arbitration
14. Asbestos
15. Barnum Industrial Park
16. Barnum Festival + Museum
17. Bridgeport East Side Theater
18. Bridgeport Economics Department

19. BEDCO
20. Black Rock
21. "The Block"
22. Board of Education 1973-1974
23. Board of Education 1975-1976
24. Board of Education January – May 1977
25. Board of Education January – May 1977
26. Board of Education January – May 1977
27. Board of Education June – December 1977
28. Board of Education June – December 1977
29. Board of Education June – December 1977
30. Board of Education June – December 1977
31. Board of Education June – December 1977

Box 2

1. Board of Education Jan-May 1978
2. Board of Education Jan-May 1978
3. Board of Education June – Dec 1978
4. Board of Education June – Dec 1978
5. Board of Education 1979
6. Board of Education 1979
7. Board of Education 1980
8. Board of Education 1981
9. Board of Education Teacher Strike 1978
10. Boston Avenue Industrial Park
11. Bridgeport Brass Co.
12. Bridgeport Education Association
13. Budget
14. Bullard-Havens
15. Bus Services
16. Cabaret
17. Caldwell, Edward
18. Carter-Mondale
19. Carter-Rosalynn
20. Mrs. Carter Visit Feb 16 1980
21. Mrs. Carter Visit Feb 16 1980
22. Casino
23. Census
24. CETA 1981
25. Charter Revision
26. Citizens Union
27. City Clerk
28. Civic Center
29. Civil Defense
30. Common Defense 1978

Box 3

1. Community Centers

2. Congressional Election
3. Congressional Hearings
4. Consumer Education
5. Council of Governments
6. Cultural Affairs
7. Democratic Town Committee
8. Demolitions
9. Dictaphone Co.
10. Dinan Center
11. Disaster Plan
12. Downtown Council
13. Drugs
14. EBBA
15. Economic Development
16. Economic Development (Goldstein Incident)
17. Editorials
18. Election 1975
19. Election 1977
20. Election 1977
21. Election 1978
22. Election 1979
23. Election 1980
24. Election 1981
25. Elections (General) – Mandanici Press Clippings
26. Elections 1976
27. Elections 1979-80
28. Elections 1981
29. Energy
30. Environmental Protections
31. Fair Housing Commission
32. Ferry Boat
33. FBI – Berrios Case
34. Federal Government
35. FBI – Supt. Walsh – Marra
36. FBI Sting 8/19/1981
37. FBI Sting 8/20/1981
38. FBI Sting 8/21/1981
39. FBI Sting 1981 News Weeklies
40. FBI Sting 1981
41. Finances
42. Fire Dept. 1976-1980
43. Fire Dept 1981
44. Floods
45. Food + Nutrition
46. Foreign Trade
47. Fundraising Campaign

Box 4

1. Garbage
2. Gas Shortage
3. GOP
4. Grand Jury
5. Grants
6. Grants Personnel Departments
7. Hall Neighborhood House
8. Handicapped
9. Harbor
10. Health Dept.
11. Historical
12. Housatonic Avenue
13. Housatonic Development Project
14. Housing 1976-1980
15. Housing 1981
16. Hovercraft
17. HRO
18. HUD
19. Human Resources
20. Humane Affairs
21. Insurance
22. Jackal & Hyde
23. Jai Alai
24. Labor
25. Laurel Ave. Bridge
26. Lead Poisoning
27. Letters to the Editor 1975-1979
28. Letters to the Editor 1980-1981
29. LEAA
30. Library
31. Long Island Sound Bridge
32. Long Island Sound Ferry
33. MASI (Museum of Art, Science & Industry)
34. Miscellaneous 1974-1977
35. Miscellaneous 1978-1981
36. Mortgage Plan
37. Motor Vehicle Dept.
38. Narcotics
39. Neighborhood Housing Services
40. ODA
41. ODA Investigation
42. OTB – Off Track Betting
43. Our Town

Box 5

1. Parks and Recreation

2. Parker, Catherine
3. Parking Authority Parking Lots + Garage + Terminal
4. Payroll
5. Pension Study
6. Pictures 1975-1979
7. Pictures 1975-1979
8. Pictures 1980-1981
9. Planning Commission
10. Pleasure Beach
11. Police 1975-1976
12. Police 1977
13. Police 1978
14. Police 1979
15. Police 1980
16. Police 1981
17. Police Robert D. Fitzgerald – Tito Fernandez
18. Police Dept. Officer Gerald T. Di Joseph
19. Politics- Hartford Courant
20. Post Publishing Co.
21. Post Publishing Co.
22. Post Publishing Co
23. Post Publishing Co. – H.S. Folsom 1979

Box 6

1. Portuguese Outreach Center
2. Presidential Election
3. Press
4. Primaries
5. PRYO
6. Property Sales
7. Public Works
8. Public Works – Snow Removal
9. Purchasing
10. Railroad Station
11. RAP Program
12. Redevelopment Plan
13. Residency
14. Retirement
15. River Rooster
16. SADA
17. Senior Citizens
18. Seres, William
19. Sewers
20. Shellfish Board
21. Social Security
22. Solar Power
23. Speeches

24. State of Connecticut
25. State Officials, Agencies, Telephones
26. Stratford Avenue Mall
27. Summer Jobs
28. Surplus 1980
29. TAB
30. Tax 1977-1980
31. Tax 1981
32. Taxes – Other Cities
33. Town Committee
34. Traffic, Transportation, Transit
35. Tri-State Planning
36. Union – 1522 AFSCME
37. Union – NAGE
38. Utilities
39. Urban Reinvestment
40. Veterans
41. Volunteers
42. Washington Park
43. Waste Recovery Plant
44. Waterfront Park
45. Weather Bureau
46. Welfare
47. WIC Program
48. Young Democrats
49. Youths
50. Zoning Commission
51. Zoo