

2011

Mark Oldham purchases The Historic Stonefort Inn and conceptualizes a restaurant featuring new Appalachian Cuisine.



December 12, 2012

TerraMae Appalachian Bistro opens in Chattanooga, TN.



February 14, 2013

Chef Shelley D. Cooper joins team as Executive Chef.



Summer 2013

"Appalachian Therapy" Cocktail Hour rolls out at StoneFort Inn.



Summer 2014

TerraMae Appalachian Farm produces first season of produce grown by Sharon Oldham.



Fall 2014

Mark Oldham purchases Dancing Bear Lodge in Townsend, TN & conceptualizes a second restaurant featuring Elevated Appalachian Cuisine.



Fall 2014

Mark Oldham purchases Apple Valley Mountain Village.



January 2015

Ground Breaking Ceremony for New Dancing Bear Appalachian Bistro.

May 2, 2015

Appalachian Pig Pickin' Food Festival / Block Party at TerraMae Appalachian Bistro in Chattanooga.



August 21, 2015

Dancing Bear Appalachian Bistro Opens.



September 2015

Chef Shelley is 1 of 4 chefs participating in the 2nd Annual Appalachian Food Summit in Abingdon, VA.



Fall 2015

Stonefort Inn and TerraMae Appalachian Bistro are sold, but the Appalachian Restaurant Concept continued under new ownership through 2017.

Summer 2016

Dancing Bear Appalachian Garden produces first season of produce grown by Sharon Oldham.





June 4, 2016

First Smoky Mountain Music Festival with Elevated Appalachian Festival Food & Music on the Lawn at Dancing Bear Event Center.



August 2016

1st Annual Bacon at the Bear Celebrating Appalachian Cuisine with Travis Melton, Ryan Kline, Jeff Carter & Renee Merritt.



2016

Chef Shelley featured in Victuals, An Appalachian Journey by Ronni Lundy, James Beard Winner.



January 2017

An Evening with Ronni Lundy at Dancing Bear Appalachian Bistro.



February 2017

Root Bound – Sip. Savor. Jam Appalachia.



March 23, 2017

Dancing Bear is featured in The South's 38 Essential Restaurants – Eater.com.



November 2017

Dancing Bear Appalachian Bistro and Executive Chef Shelley featured on The Travel Channel's "Food Paradise."



May 2018

Guest Chef at Collective Spirit Private Wine Dinner to benefit The Bascom Center for the Visual Arts, Highlands, NC.



Summer 2018

Old Fashioned Smokehouse is built out of cinder block and black walnut wood.



August 2018

Dancing Bear Appalachian Bistro and Chef Shelley are featured on Cooking Channel's "Southern & Hungry" Season 2, Episode 3, Smoky Mountain Majesty.



September 2018

Chef Shelley's Kilt Greens Doused With Delicious Bacon Fat featured in Wall Street Journal.



October 2018

Guest Chef at Honor Louis Osteen, Highlands, NC.



January 2019

Dancing Bear Appalachian Bistro wins Trip Advisor's Top 25 Most Romantic Restaurants.



May 2019

Chef Shelley's New Ambrosia Salad featured in Garden & Gun.



September 2019

Shelley is featured chef at the Chow Chow Festival in Nashville, TN.



November 2019

Guest Chef at Highlands Food & Wine Festival.



February 2020

Matt Burk joins the Dancing Bear Appalachian Bistro family as Bistro General Manager and certified sommelier.



August 2020

The Appalachian Bistro celebrated the completion of the Bar at the Bear as well as a kitchen storage expansion – The newly expanded bar now boasts a temperature-controlled 300+ bottle wine storage room and walk-in cooler as well as expanded bar space and seating.





July 2021

Dancing Bear Lodge & Appalachian Bistro welcomes
Jeff Carter as Executive Chef of Culinary Operations



December 2021

Dancing Bear's Appalachian cuisine touted in [Conde
Naste Traveler](#)

Condé Nast
Traveler