continuing on-farm pickup.

"We're resilient if nothing else," she said.

Boiling Over's Coffee Vault

Laura LeMiere, an owner of Boiling Over's Coffee Vault, was one business owner who innovated for online to survive COVID-19.

After revamping their online store, adding online orders, the coffee shop reopened in June. Since then, LeMiere said it's been "all about riding the wave of what we're allowed to do, and not do."

The store now offers socially distanced seating and even managed to host a few of its live music nights. The musicians sold tickets directly to their fan bases — a private show. Boiling Over accommodated patrons at their seats instead of at the counter, and set up a hygiene shield between them and the musicians.

LeMiere said the pandemic forced Boiling Over to innovate in ways it may never have unless it had to — such as online. The coffee shop hasn't seen the same return financially, she admitted, but it's been an amazing year for building partnerships with other local businesses, and relationships with customers.

Boiling Over is offering more local products than ever as people focus more on shopping local and local retailers look for more ways to offer their products, she said. "It does feel like there's a light at the end of the tunnel right now," she added.

Lindsay Drive In

The Lindsay Drive In was one of many seasonal businesses in Kawartha Lakes that waited anxiously for the green-light as pandemic shutdowns cut into their busy seasons.

Dan Zita, owner, had the extra challenge of needing something to show as new movie releases were postponed. COVID-19 protocols also restricted him from opening concessions — where he said he made his money.

"I think under the circumstances, it was phenomenal," he said, reflecting on the year despite a late opening.

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