June 1, 2026 - “Vibe Shift” - Faren Roth, edited by Kareem Ayas

ACROSS

1 Detective Diaz of “Brooklyn Nine-Nine” who said “What kind of woman doesn’t have an axe?”

5 Firewood, eventually

8 *To have a laugh

9 *Like some messy toddlers

10 Pouch residents

11 Tree goop I once boiled down for days only for it to burn in the last 10 minutes

12 Text that might precede an epic voice message

13 Ability to control the ball, in soccer

15 Capital of Brazil before Brasília, familiarly

16 Feel a workout

17 *Charles who released most of his novels in installments

19 *Set, as haupia (Hawaiian coconut pudding)

20 *Mark that might lead you to say you “burned yourself with a curling iron”

22 Like the smell in the air after doing a bunch of donuts

25 Photo ___

28 *Producing speech sounds common in some Southern African languages

29 *Sadistic sorts

30 Talking-___ (lectures)

31 Musician John who affectionately nicknamed his stepfather “Derf”

33 “Hamilton” star Phillipa

35 How breakups should occur, imo

36 Suddenly lose romantic interest ... or what the answers to the starred clues need to do to make sense

39 Hits a ball into a windmill, maybe

40 Prop used by Anna Kendrick in her “Pitch Perfect” Bellas audition scene (so iconic!)

41 Kitchen item grabbed during a certain intense card game

42 “Nice one”

DOWN

1 Undergrad’s first assignment?

2 State home to “Humongous Fungus” (the second largest known organism, covering roughly 3.7 square miles)

3 It’s up there!

4 Helper, for short

5 Given that

6 It might be drawn on the first to crash at a sleepover, for short

7 Low-key character?

8 Glacial feature along Norway’s immense coastline (the second longest in the world!)

14 Like many Nature Valley granola bars

18 Protected area on the soccer field

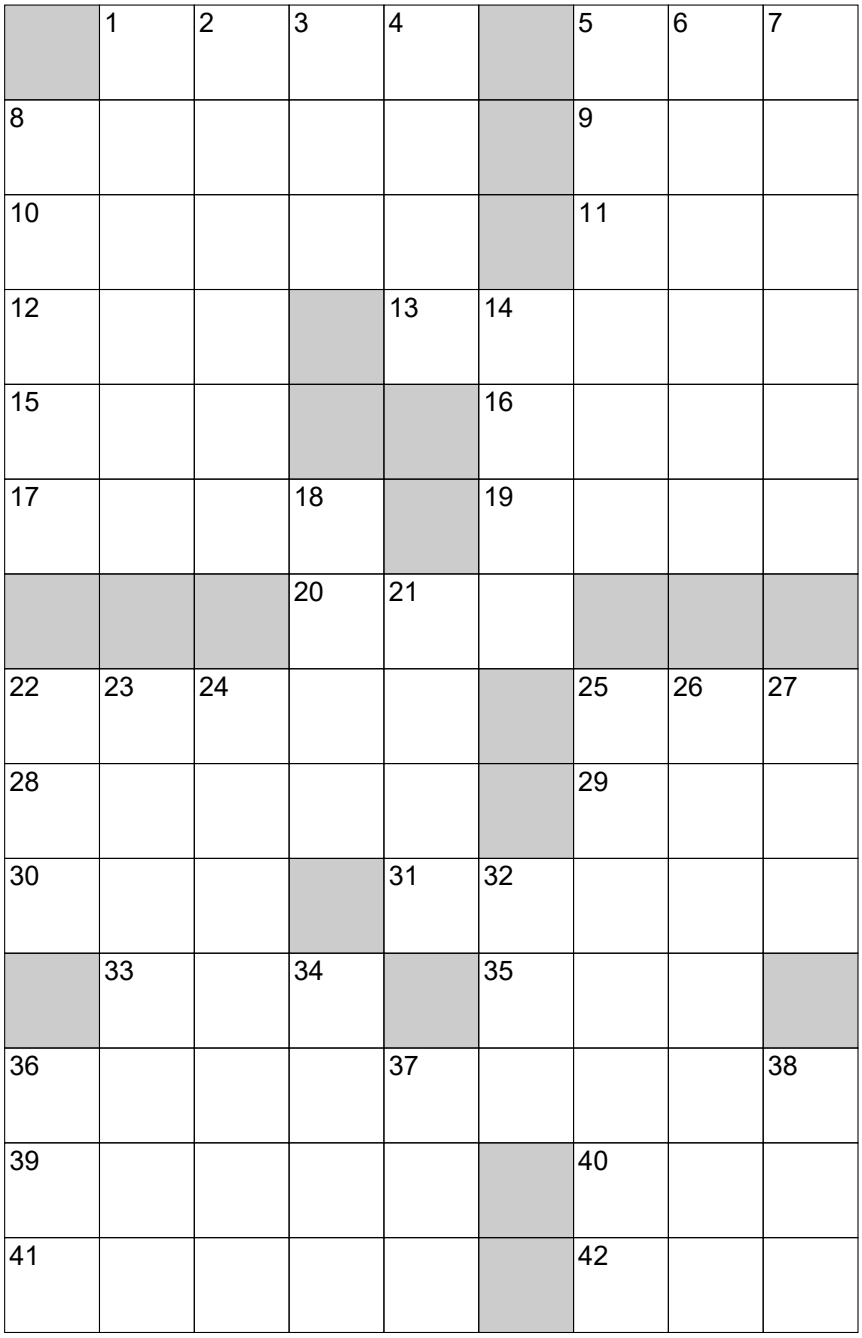
21 Fringe

22 Put on a show

23 Camera shot that captures athletes’ reactions

24 Rice dish sometimes flavored with saffron

25 Animal that doesn’t bury its head in the sand, despite popular myth



© 2026

26 You might accidentally scratch with one on a table

27 ID that wasn’t randomized until 2011

32 “Oh that? I burned myself with a curling iron,” e.g.

34 Name found in 24-Down

36 Navigation tech

37 TV channel whose parent company filed for bankruptcy two hours before I wrote this clue

38 Nice drivers see this on their dashboard?