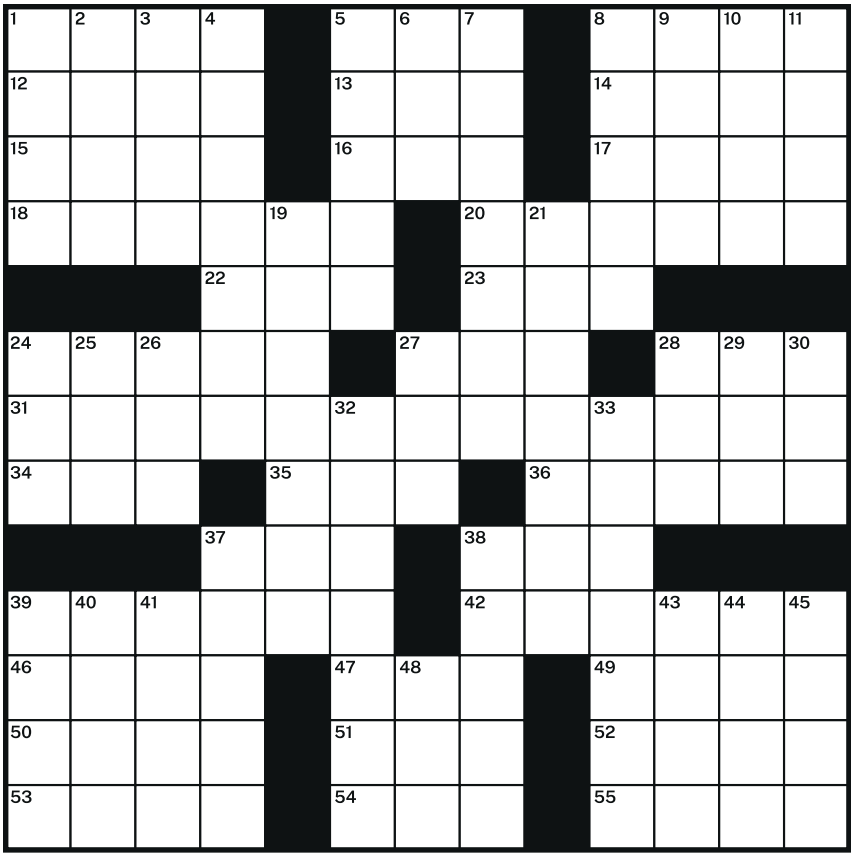
THIS YEAR

Words from right about now. The long answer across the middle is who you get to be once the phones are in a drawer.



ACROSS

1 Like a lawn after a rainy spring
5 Small wheel in a big machine
8 Pod people?
12 "I'm ___ you!" (I know your game)
13 Three letters that mean you probably just smiled a little
14 Rod between two wheels
15 What the air fryer leaves behind after fish night
16 Sound of a crossword answer landing
17 What sourdough has to do before it bakes
18 What a group chat changes every four minutes
20 Hoodie fabric, often
22 Close up a hoodie
23 Like a driveway that needs salt
24 "404" is one
27 Like a dog after the sprinkler
28 Little rascal
31 Kind of energy you bring when the walk to the mailbox feels like a movie (2 wds.)
34 Caller of balls and strikes, for short
35 What a video call does right when you start talking
36 What karaoke should be sung with
37 Hidden ___ (restaurant you tell only three people about)
38 "Asking ___ a friend"
39 Best subject in school, by popular vote
42 Still in one piece, like a daily puzzle streak
46 Little picture you tap to open something
47 Line on a receipt, right after the subtotal
49 What your thumbs do after too much scrolling
50 Spiced tea in a latte
51 It gets rolled at a dad joke
52 Cast-___ skillet
53 Center of a donut
54 Color of a low-battery warning
55 Pond dweller that looks like a tiny dragon

DOWN

1 Haul from a birthday party goody bag
2 Command you wish real life had
3 Word on a red sign
4 Where the sun clocks in and out
5 Fiddly part of a necklace
6 Sound made at fireworks
7 River of ice that is in no hurry
8 Reason for a text that says "what can I bring?"
9 Lit sign over a theater door
10 "Oh, and another thing ..."
11 Word under a message that got read but not answered
19 What you drive in when the GPS keeps rerouting
21 Eight-sided shape
24 Big bird that cannot fly
25 Sheep with horns, or a computer's short-term memory
26 Tear, as wrapping paper
27 What a tail does when you get home
28 Belonging to it (no apostrophe)
29 "Have we ___?"
30 Word added to the name of the pricier phone
32 Pet with its own wheel
33 It comes down at the end of a play
37 Blue wisecracker in "Aladdin"
38 No longer broken
39 Like a brownie that needs a glass of milk
40 It always gets the last word
41 Lump in a naughty stocking
43 About three quarters of a football field
44 Food, informally
45 Glamping bedroom
48 Yes, on a ship

Answers are on the next page, upside down.

NO PEEKING. WELL, A LITTLE.

Turn the page around when you are truly stuck, or to settle who was right.

L	U	S	H	■	C	O	G	■	P	E	A	S
O	N	T	O	■	L	O	L	■	A	X	L	E
O	D	O	R	■	A	H	A	■	R	I	S	E
T	O	P	I	C	S	■	C	O	T	T	O	N
■	■	■	Z	I	P	■	I	C	Y	■	■	■
E	R	R	O	R	■	W	E	T	■	I	M	P
M	A	I	N	C	H	A	R	A	C	T	E	R
U	M	P	■	L	A	G	■	G	U	S	T	O
■	■	■	G	E	M	■	F	O	R	■	■	■
R	E	C	E	S	S	■	I	N	T	A	C	T
I	C	O	N	■	T	A	X	■	A	C	H	E
C	H	A	I	■	E	Y	E	■	I	R	O	N
H	O	L	E	■	R	E	D	■	N	E	W	T

CROSSWORD: THIS YEAR