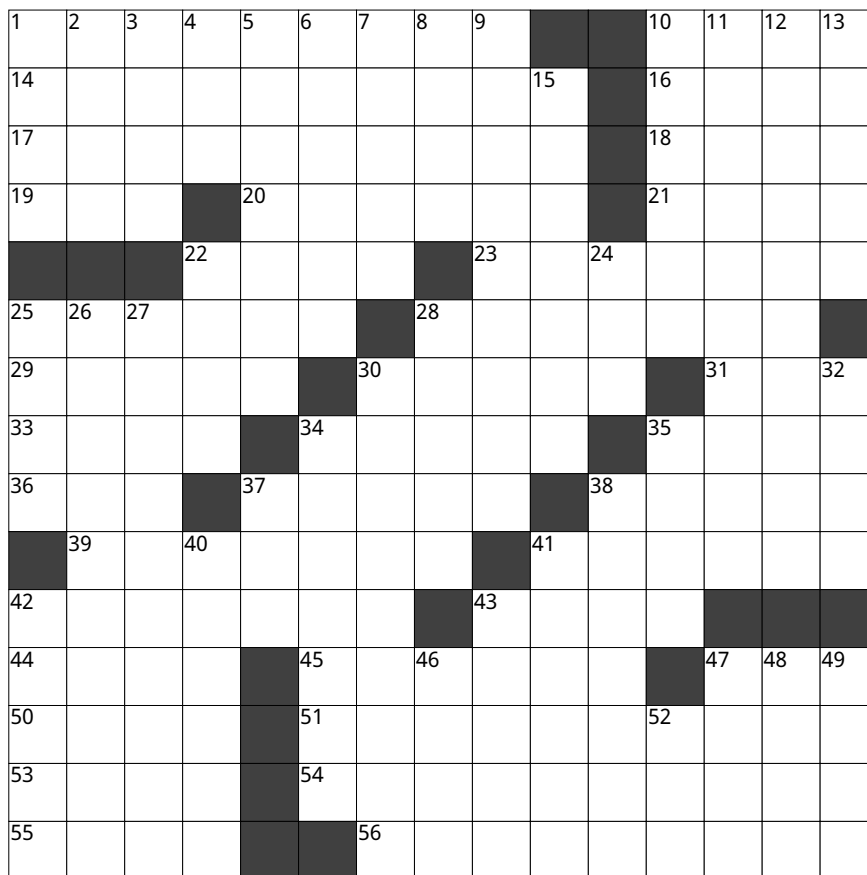


ACROSS

- 1 Rite that may be performed at St. Peter's Basilica
 10 Ishmael's captain
 14 "Here's my contribution..."
 16 ___ Brite (toy that requires a 25-watt bulb)
 17 Backyard amusement that connects to a hose
 18 Interrogates
 19 Vote for
 20 Humiliated
 21 Expectorate
 22 Grande y Bravo
 23 They're across the Adriatic from Italy
 25 Dialect coach's specialty
 28 Sikh head coverings
 29 One of three on some plugs
 30 Draped garments
 31 Short sentence of commitment
 33 Purplish-brown shade
 34 Square dance sites, stereotypically
 35 Wrap that shouldn't go in the microwave
 36 Padre's hermano
 37 Cooks down, as spinach
 38 Stopped from squeaking
 39 They'd respond "no!" to "Don't Be Cruel" and "yes!" to "Do You Really Want to Hurt Me?"
 41 Statistic of interest?
 42 Fill in after the fact
 43 Inedible(!) Tide capsules
 44 "Understood"
 45 "The Last Picture Show" Oscar winner Leachman
 47 Signal onstage
 50 Nickname that drops "-deus"
 51 Blank slate, as explained by John Locke
 53 Second highest card in a royal flush
 54 Manchester rock band known for "I Wanna Be Adored" and "Fools Gold"
 55 Cathedral alcove
 56 First word or phrase put in place when constructing a themeless crossword

DOWN

- 1 Leaning Tower city
 2 One with a common cause
 3 Ballerina's bend
 4 Prop for a production of "Antony and Cleopatra"
 5 City that's Gretchen Whitmer's primary workplace
 6 What Hamilton is "not throwing away," onstage
 7 Reference book type whose sales were affected by GPS tech
 8 Stabilizing wedge



- 9 Facial hair named for a Civil War general
 10 1867 purchase termed "Seward's Folly"
 11 Two-nation Caribbean island
 12 Low-carb plan
 13 Outperforms
 15 "Me Talk Pretty One Day" essayist David
 22 Surrealist Magritte
 24 Parts of tons: abbr.
 25 Datebook entry: abbr.
 26 Setting of David Foster Wallace's "A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again"
 27 Chocolate sources
 28 Fruity treats
 30 Landforms created by evaporation
 32 Word often after "ye"
 34 Cuts in two
 35 Some evergreens
 37 Console on which you can play 100-pin bowling
 38 "The likeliest thing is..."
 40 Coat with flour
 41 Like a snake at rest
 42 Longtime Chicago Bears coach Mike
 43 Sunsweet product
 46 Bassoon relative
 47 List in a Playbill
 48 The U of UX
 49 Beginner-level
 52 Man's name that's a conjunction spelled backward