



**August 2024**

**[www.denverapplepi.com](http://www.denverapplepi.com)**

**Volume 45, No. 8**

**Denver Apple Pi Meetings (DAPI) with Individual Help Available are held from 8-9 pm at Applewood Community Church  
 12930 W. 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Golden 80401**

On occasion, Applewood Community Church may have shelter/meal obligations. You will be notified by email if DAPI meetings are to be canceled.

<b>Denver Apple Pi</b>	<b>2024 Meeting Schedule</b>	
<b>August 20</b>		
<b>September 17</b>		
<b>October 15</b>		
<b>November 19</b>		
<b>December 17</b>	<b>Holiday Party!</b>	

**Picnic Follow Up**

If you have receipts for food purchased for the July Denver Apple Pi picnic, please submit them to club Treasurer Herman Pflueger at the August 20th meeting for reimbursement.

**At the August 20th Meeting of the Denver Apple Pi**

Tammy Hanson will give a presentation on options to Back-up your devices. Then club member Darlene Boord will share information about Screen Capture. Following this first hour of the meeting, there will be time for a group discussion among members. In addition, member requests for technical assistance will be addressed in an adjoining room.

## Brain implant lets User Control Vision Pro via Thoughts

*CultofMac.com, by David Snow, 7/30/24*  
<https://synchron.com/technology>

Technology company Synchron announced the ground breaking development of a tiny implant in a brain blood vessel can lead to thought control of the Apple Vision Pro headset that was introduced last Spring. Coined a brain-computer interface (BCI), the company successfully demonstrated the first-ever use of Apple's Vision Pro AR/VR headset controlled directly by thought. This technology helping individuals with severe mobility limitations engage with cutting-edge technology that implements both hands-free and voice-free use of devices.

The BCI is inserted in the blood vessel on the surface of the motor cortex of the brain via the jugular vein, using a minimally-invasive endovascular procedure. It communicates with a small device affixed to the patient's chest which then detects and wirelessly transmits "motor intent" out of the brain to enable severely paralyzed people to control personal devices with hands-free point-and-click.

This integration of BCI technology with the Vision Pro headset represents a significant step forward in accessibility and human-computer interaction. It suggests a future where individuals with paralysis, limited mobility or limited speech can fully immerse themselves in augmented and virtual reality experiences.

"BCI is a platform to re-connect people with injury or disease back to the fast-moving consumer technology landscape. Vision Pro is a powerful system, but it relies on the use of hand gestures to exert control over the UI," said Tom Oxley, CEO & Founder of Synchron. "We are sending control signals directly from the brain to replace the need for hand gestures. We are moving towards a new Bluetooth standard for Human Computer Interactions that do not require touch or speech. This is a critical unmet need for millions of people with paralysis."

Perhaps it's just me, but I find reporting on this news topic to be rather surreal. This glimpse of a future provides an intriguing scenerio where boundaries between thought and digital interaction begun to merge, potentially revolutionizing how we interact with the world. In his [CultofMac.com](https://cultofmac.com) article dated 7/30/24 tech writer David Snow presented the following list of exciting future uses for this exciting new technology. They include:

**Expanded accessibility.** This successful integration could lead to further adaptations of AR/VR technology for individuals with physical limitations.

**Medical and therapeutic use.** Vision Pro's immersive capabilities, combined with thought control, could open new avenues for rehabilitation and therapy.

**Enhanced communication.** For those unable to speak or use traditional input methods, this technology could provide new ways to interact and communicate in real and virtual environments.

**Educational opportunities.** Students with mobility impairments could participate more fully in virtual classrooms and interactive learning experiences.

**Professional applications.** The technology could enable folks with physical limitations to work remotely and collaborate well in virtual environments.

**Entertainment and social interaction.** Users could more easily participate in virtual social gatherings and entertainment experiences.

**Further technological integration.** Other tech companies could develop similar integrations, potentially leading to a new standard in human-computer interaction that doesn't rely on touch or speech.

This technology is potentially a game changer, providing enhanced quality of life for many within the disabled community. In the end, however, the long term safety, efficacy and cost of the technology will dictate its widespread adoption.

### **Ever wonder why TSA required your devices to be removed from bags?**

New scanning technology implemented this Spring at many US airports, including Denver International Airport allows travellers to no longer remove computers, tablets and other devices from carry-on luggage at newly remodeled TSA checkpoints. But for years, did you wonder why TSA required you remove your electronic devices from your carry-on bags in the first place?

The battery and other mechanical components are too dense for many older X-ray machines to penetrate. This is especially true when it comes to the older model scanners that many airports still rely on. The components of a laptop essentially create a solid barrier, which can be used to obscure other items packed into the same bag. Potentially dangerous items such as knives and small firearms can be packed by people looking to cause damage or harm. By requiring passengers to remove their laptops, TSA agents can look behind this "wall" to see if there are any prohibited items hidden in the laptop bag. If you're pulled for secondary screening, some TSA agents might actually make you turn on the computer to show it's working. If a laptop doesn't boot up, that might arouse suspicion. These rules primarily apply to standard laptop computers. Tablets such as iPads are thin enough for the scanner to see through.

### **Shopping for Apple Products at Costco Provides the Following Advantages**

*FinanceBuzz.com, by Sandy Baker, 2/14/2024*

When in the market for a new Apple device, the best option may be to visit your local Costco.

You're likely to find the products you want in addition to the following perks:

1. **Longer Warranties** -If you buy your Apple device from Costco, you'll get a two-year warranty on your device without any additional cost. That's twice as long as the warranty that Apple offers.
2. **Discounts**-on Apple Products you won't find at your Apple Store or smaller retailers.
3. **Better selection than most retailers** - As a big buyer, Costco may have more inventory available, especially true of buying at non-electronics specialized retailers. No retailer will have the range and choice of products that Apple itself does, but Costco probably comes the closest.
4. **Generous Return Policy** -If you decide to purchase a product and then it's not a great fit for you, you have a full 90-day return window at Costco. By contrast, Apple gives you 14 calendar days to return an item.
5. **Apple Store is usually more crowded**-because that's where many people go to get repairs or updates as well as to shop. Costco likely has what you need and you probably won't have to deal with a crowd.
6. **Better Pricing** -Since Costco purchases items like this in bulk, it may be able to provide its customers with better pricing for AppleCare.
7. **Costco may be closer than your local Apple Store**

## Is a Foldable iPhone in Your Future?

[TheInformation.com](#),

CNET.com, by David Lumb and Vanessa Hand Orellana, 7/15/2024

MacRumors.com, Foldable iPhone Development Allegedly Paused Due to Failing Screens

by Tim Hardwick, 2/16/24

Bloomberg.com, PowerOn Newsletter, by Mark Gurman, 8/12/2024

For the past five years companies such as Samsung, Motorola and Google have released foldable phones. The latest Android flexible-screen devices like the Galaxy Z Fold 6, Motorola Razr Plus reboot and Pixel Fold have robust flexible displays. Each phone, however, struggles with a noticeable crease within the internal folding display.

To meet its exacting standards, Apple wants to eliminate this crease before it releases its first model and pushed back plans to launch its first foldable phone for the foreseeable future, according to a recent online article in [TheInformation.com](#).

The folding phone is exactly what it sounds like. It typically features both an external display and an internal display hidden by the fold. The fold can either run top to bottom, creating a slim, narrow device that unfolds into a tablet, or it can run left to right, resulting in a clamshell design similar to the Motorola Razr. This type of fold makes the



Foldable Motorola RAZR Plus

phone compact enough to fit easily in a pocket, but it can unfold to the size of a conventional iPhone, maybe a little taller. The device Apple appears to be considering is similar to the Motorola RAZR pictured above.

Samsung is a major supplier of display panels used in Apple devices and has provided foldable display samples to Apple. A recent report by Fixed Focus Digital, a Weibo-based tech video blogger from Guangdong, China with a huge Chinese following, states that Samsung has been attempting to strengthen its operational efficiency in anticipation of Apple's first foldable products by integrating the expertise it has gained making foldable devices since 2019. The Apple prototype device is rumored to be named Code-named V68.

The company's design team wants the iPhone Flip to be half as thin as current iPhone models and to have displays on the outside that are visible when the device is folded shut. The Apple iPhone Flip may feature a self-healing screen and could cost between \$1,200 and \$2,000. It is not likely that Apple would release any version of their foldable phone until at least 2026.

## Rumors Increase about the Release of a Revamped iPhone SE

*Proper Honest Tech, newsletter@properhonesttech.com, 7/26/24*

*Tom's Guide.com, iPhone SE 4 just tipped for 2025 release with biggest upgrades in years, News, by Josh Render, 8/11/2024*

*Bloomberg.com, Mark Gurman Video, 8/13/2024*

New iPhone releases, such as that of the iPhone 16 set for an upgrade in September, make it easy for one to ignore the iPhone SE. It has been around since 2016, and in 2022, Apple introduced the third-generation version, with an updated \$429 price point, improved A-series chip, and 5G connectivity. In his recent **Power On** newsletter, Bloomberg.com reporter Mark Gurman stated that Apple plans to release the iPhone SE 4 as early as the beginning of 2025. Apple continues to produce the iPhone SE for a simple reason. It meets the needs of users who want a reliable iPhone experience at a fraction of the cost of a flagship model.

The iPhone SE is an interesting product. The current iPhone SE features the A15 Bionic chip, the same one used in the (then) flagship iPhone 13, providing the performance and power found in high-end iPhones, but housed in a antiquated case with a Home button and low-quality display.

Apple had scheduled the iPhone SE 4 redesign just before it faced a challenge of announcing Apple Intelligence then declaring AI will not run on less than the iPhone 16 range and newer, or the iPhone 15 Pro released in 2023. Apple must decide whether the budget iPhone SE will be capable of running Apple Intelligence (on an A 18 chip) or risk alienating future buyers.

Potentially the revamped iPhone SE 4 offers notable value for consumers. It's expected to run Apple Intelligence features on a full-screen design and eliminate the home button with the action button, (usually exclusive to Pro models) and incorporate Face ID. It would likely have a 48 MP main camera, which would be a considerable upgrade over the SE 3's 12 MP one. By 2025, all new Apple devices including the iPhone SE4 will offer USB-C connectivity instead of Lightning. According to Mark Gurman, "the new model will resemble the iPhone 14, however, it will include a crisper OLED display that stretches across the full device".

If a revamped iPhone SE delivers on all these options by 2025, and come to market under \$500, it will become the most affordable, best value iPhone available for consumers to access an Apple Intelligence-capable device. The savvy consumer may decide that this phone, coupled with a base model MacBook Air or Mac Mini (which also supports all Apple Intelligence features) provides a way to create an Apple Intelligence-capable ecosystem at the most economical cost.

## **iOS 18: Using the New 'Search Here' Feature in Apple Maps**

*<https://www.macrumors.com/>, 8/9/2024, by Tim Hardwick*

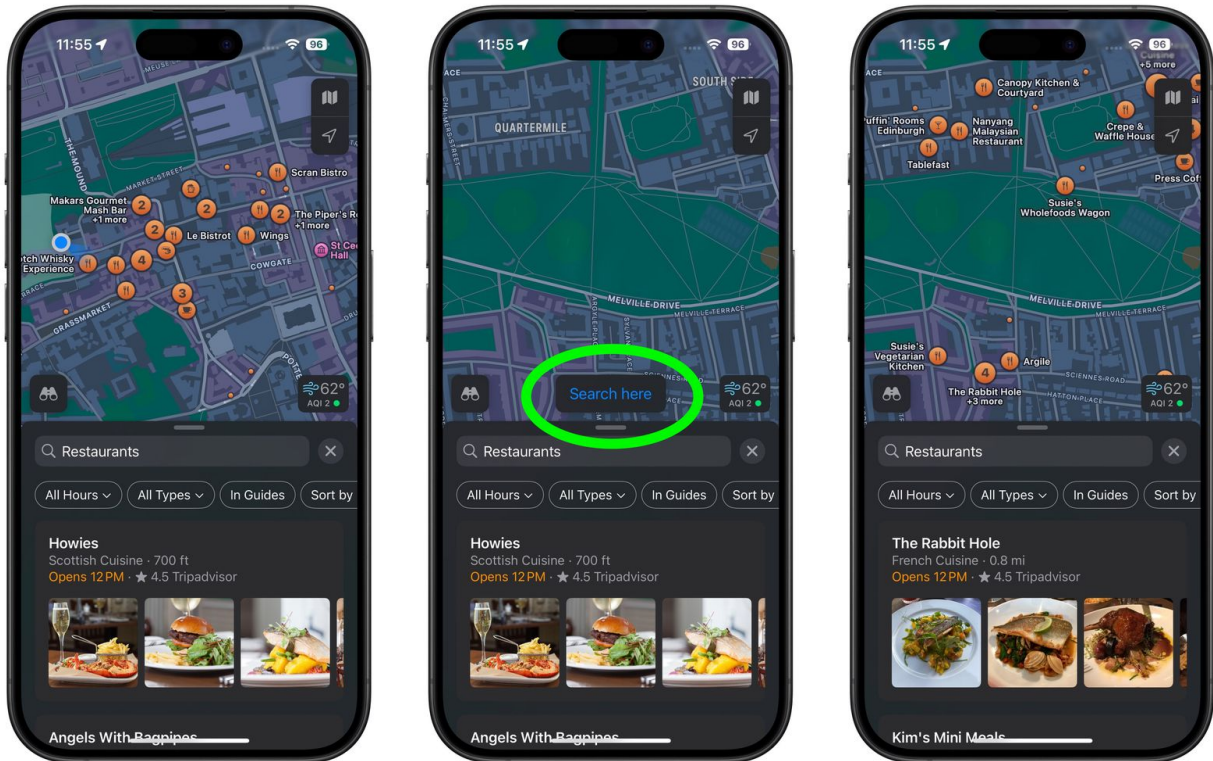
In iOS 18, Apple Maps gains a new "Search here" button that makes it much easier to find what you're looking for in areas that aren't your current location or when you're exploring any new place on the map.

In earlier versions of iOS, if you search nearby, in Apple Maps, and then drag the map to another location with your finger, it will usually (but not always) auto-populate the new area with search results for the same request.

That behavior remains in iOS 18, but in addition there is a "Search here" button that provides more manual fine-grained control of the area in which to search. This is especially useful if the zoom level of the map is adjusted, or if you scroll away only slightly from the original search – two instances where auto-populating results can be inconsistent. Google Maps has had this feature for years, so it's good to see that Apple Maps has finally adopted it. iOS 18 also adds other improvements to Apple Maps, including topographic maps complete with trail networks and hikes, as well as options to

save favorite trails, download them for offline use, add notes, and get information like elevation and length

iOS 18 is currently in public beta and will be officially released in the fall, around mid-September, when the iPhone 16 series is launched.



## REMINDER

Help SIG: Call Herman to get your name/problem on the list prior to our meeting so our DAPi Help people will be prepared. **You will need to bring your computer, your own power cord, mouse and keyboard.** Herman will keep a sign-up list for those asking for help at the monthly meeting so members can be helped in a prioritized way. Drop-ins are welcome. Contact Herman at 720-897-9766 or [hermanalb@mac.com](mailto:hermanalb@mac.com)

Need help with iPad, iPhone? If you would like assistance with navigating and synchronizing your iPad and iPhone, bring them to the monthly meeting. Notify Herman what help you need, and we will try to get the problems resolved.

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## Denver Apple Pi Membership Information

Denver Apple Pi (DAPi) is an Apple Computer Users Group, not affiliated with Apple Inc. The Seed is an independent publication not affiliated or otherwise associated with or

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Fill in the form below or ask for an application to complete and send to the Club mailing address: DENVER APPLE Pi, 6441 Eaton St, Arvada, CO 80003. For information, call Herman Pflueger at 720-897-9766 or email hermanalb@mac.com.

Our web site is: [www.denverapplepi.com](http://www.denverapplepi.com)

Mac and Troubleshooter Group Help SIG meets the THIRD Tuesday of the month, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Seed articles should be sent to: [lindasienkiewicz@gmail.com](mailto:lindasienkiewicz@gmail.com), Subject: Seed article

#### Denver Apple Pi Officers

President	Larry Fagan
Vice President (Mac)/(Help)	Tammy Hanson
Acting Secretary	Shelby Shrigley
Treasurer/Membership Chair	Herman Pflueger
Appointees: Web Master	Tammy Hanson





## Membership Form

New members please complete the following and email to:

[hermanalb@mac.com](mailto:hermanalb@mac.com)

Or mail to: Denver Apple Pi  
6441 Eaton St., Arvada, CO 80003

Or you may turn in your dues and this application to any Officer at any regular meeting.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Change \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Apple Computer devices/models owned: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Applications (Apps) most used \_\_\_\_\_

Program ideas for upcoming meetings: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Call Herman at 720-897-9766

