

LONGEVITY CIRCUIT

Perpetuating techniques which contribute to a longevity lifestyle

Artificial Intelligence

Even if you are only reading headlines in the news, you must have read something about the “Turkey-Shoot Clusterfuck,” the name Microsoft people called the recent OpenAI drama. It’s about its CEO, Sam Altman, being summarily fired by the Board of Directors at OpenAI much to the concern of Microsoft, its huge investor. The New Yorker has two very good articles about the situation that you can read online for all the details, but the gist of it is, that after five days, Sam Altman was reinstated as president and the Board of Directors were fired.

The issue behind all this drama is about artificial intelligence and the attitudes of researchers, investors, and the public, considering its usefulness, safety, and control. There is a lot of fear, perhaps some justified, but also a lot of paranoia.

So what is AI? Here’s a definition from Britannica: “AI or artificial intelligence is the ability of a digital computer or computer-controlled robot to perform tasks commonly associated with intelligent beings. The term is frequently applied to the project of developing systems endowed with the intellectual processes characteristic of humans, such as the ability to reason, discover meaning, generalize, or learn from past experience.”

OK, this is an astrological newsletter, so why am I writing about AI? Because there are so

many widely divergent attitudes about it, I decided to look at the chart of the U.S. to see what “the stars” have to say about it. First of all, the U.S. Chart has an Aquarius Ascendent. Do you remember that I’ve taught that the Ascendent is the face of a person, their tool kit of coping mechanisms, the way they look and relate to others. With Aquarius here there is the

need for autonomy, freedom (isn’t that why all the early settlers came here and why immigrants still come?) Aquarius is also innovative, original, scientific, independent, and unemotional. In short, it embraces new ideas and concepts - just like AI! And guess what? The field of AI research was founded at a



Santa Fe Plaza

workshop held on the campus of Dartmouth College, USA during the summer of 1956. What’s more, Uranus, the ruler of Aquarius, is positioned in the US chart 5th house: creativity, risk-taking, theatre and drama, innovation. Perfect! AI is all of those!

AI is here to stay. Uranus is currently in Taurus, transiting the nation’s 3rd house which is where early learning takes place. It is those truths deemed absolute and correct, but also those things taught in early childhood that are wrong or incorrect but are maintained as true. Since Uranus entered the third house it is responsible for the attempt to change attitudes about women, race, and sex. Not easy, is it? The

same goes for AI. There are many misconceptions and fears afloat about what AI can do in the future. But that has been true about any innovation, the “horseless carriage,” aviation, cell-phones, and now self-driving cars! All those people on their cellphones while driving could use a little help!! Ignorance means ignoring the truth: the perfect matrix for fear. But any new invention needs time and experience to perfect. Use shows the problems and problems need experience to be solved. Paul and I recently bought a month of ChatGPT to see how it worked. We asked for an astrological Christmas card and here are two examples of what we got. Strange huh?



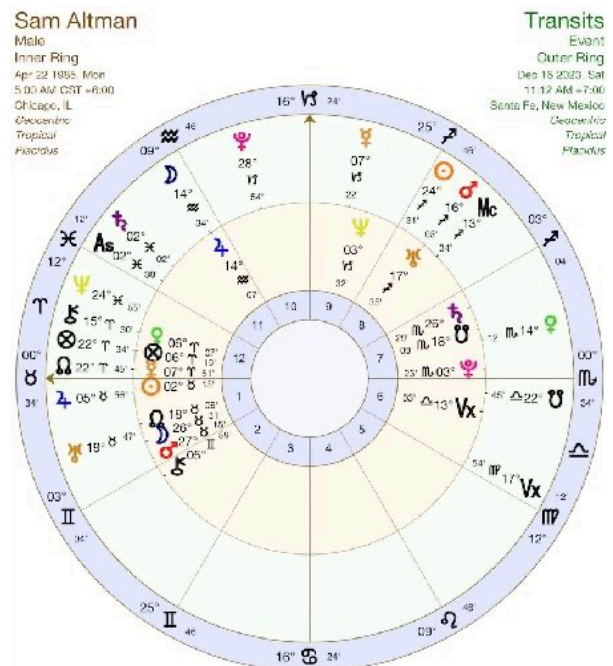
And what about all the fuss about Sam Altman? Was it about him or about AI? It seems that he had a personality problem with his Board, but reading more deeply, they were afraid he was moving too quickly and were afraid of unknown results.

Here is his chart. His Sun and his Moon are in Taurus (and maybe his Ascendent as well). His brilliance is probably due to the interaction of

his sextile between Uranus and Jupiter: each is in the other's home constellation. The Uranian qualities are enhanced and magnified by the constellation of Sagittarius, the centaur shooting off his arrow into the unknown. And similarly Jupiter, the professor and adventurer, enhanced by the qualities of Aquarius. And sitting right in the middle of that, the Midheaven is in the sign Capricorn, the goat who single-mindedly treks up to the top of the mountain! His career is assured and will be long-lasting in its effect but he will often be confronted by people who consider themselves to be his equal because in his natal chart Pluto opposes his Sun. Currently Pluto is squaring his Ascendent: confrontational power plays and so it was that he got fired by his Board. With so much Taurus in his chart, however, he will continue to continue.

And so will AI! Here are a few current common uses for AI:

- Opening one's phone with facial recognition
- Social media
- E-Mail and spell check
- Google Search
- Digital voice assistants (Siri / Alexa / Google)
- Smart home devices
- Commuting maps / driving assisted tech
- Self driving cars
- Banking, Amazon, Netflix, and more...



Winter Calendar

The winter solstice in Santa Fe is at 8:27 pm on Thursday, December 21. In terms of daylight, this day is 4 hours, 50 minutes shorter than the June solstice. In most locations north of the equator, the shortest day of the year is around this date and that is why the day is celebrated with candles and lights!

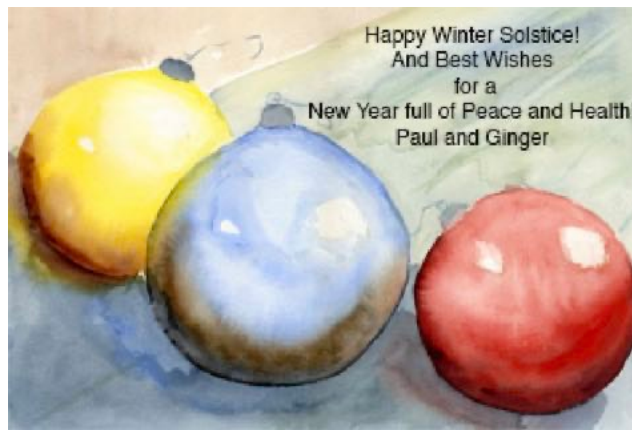
It has been a rough year all around the globe. For much of the late summer and fall most, or all, of the outer planets have been retrograde. Retrograde means the energy of a planet is directed inward to reflect and reconsider, to plan but not to act. Unfortunately, many decisions have been made during this time and hopefully will be reconsidered as the new year progresses.

Jupiter turns direct in a week, on Saturday, Dec 30th. That's a great way to start the new year. Jupiter gives us optimism, positive expectations, growth and intelligence. But like all astrological energies, there is always the downside. Jupiter can also be bombastic, holier than thou, and over-extended. Maybe that is what free-choice is: deciding how to use energies.

Saturn has been direct since early November and has remained at 0° Pisces for almost 2 months. Jupiter and Saturn affect the stock market and many news articles question why our economy is stable but people don't feel optimistic. When Saturn is in Pisces it can bring paranoia and fear, especially since Saturn is in the first house of the U.S. chart which rules the people. Although Saturn takes a peek into Aries, it will remain in Pisces until late 2025. That is, it will be there during the Presidential election and could affect the outcome. Also Saturn, together with **Neptune** (which went direct in

early December), both in the first house, describes the problems of the pandemic as well as the surge in the homeless population.

Finally **Uranus** will turn direct at the end of January. With the retrograde Uranus you can see why the big AI companies are reflecting on the possible downsides of this new science. Uranus is currently in Taurus and in its fall, being restricted by the earth, meaning that its natural intuitive flow must be practical. I think this is good for AI as it gives impetus to finding useful and practical uses for the new "science." (BTW, Uranus is strong in Vladimir Putin's chart right now, conjuncting his Jupiter and squaring his Pluto and will be for a while. Hopefully that will bring some



change to his attitude about Ukraine).

Pluto went direct in mid October and is moving toward another peek into Aquarius. It spent over two months in Aquarius in April and May of this year before going retrograde. Pluto has a very irregular orbit and its extreme distance from the Sun causes it to take a very very long time to move from one constellation to another. When I first started doing Astrology in the early 80's Pluto was closer to the Sun and going relatively extremely fast. That was a very intense time as the effects of Pluto occurred faster. Now Pluto has slowed down and spends more time on 29° Capricorn and 0° Aquarius. No one alive has experience with Pluto in Aquarius, we can only conjecture how it will be experienced by looking to the past. The last time Pluto was in Aquarius was in 1777-1799. That was the time of the Revolutionary War and the French Revolution and the birth of Democracy as a viable form of government.

Hopefully Pluto in Aquarius, until 2044, will bring worldwide brotherhood and the Aquarian Age will be evident. And, of course, we will see extraordinary developments in science (space travel). Another interesting thing is that Pluto will also be making a return to its original number and position in the U.S. Chart around 2027 at 4° in the 12th house. These next few years are bound to be intense with many changes as different factions of governmental philosophy confront each other.

And finally, **Mercury** went retrograde in Capricorn on December 13th. And turns direct on New Years Day at 8:09 pm here in Santa Fe. I have never written a newsletter during a Mercury retrograde in the 34 years I have been doing it. I worry, have I forgotten something? Have I misconstrued something? A retro Mercury is better used to research, contemplate, review, not to write!! Well, we shall see! Anyway, Look for the next issue on March 21st!

“Our republic should learn this lesson, for we might one day vote into power a hero who wins a giant TV trivia contest and educate our children to believe the Information Superhighway is the road to knowledge. If one clue to psychopathy is a trivial mind expressing itself in high-sounding phrases, then education emphasizing facts rather than thinking, and patriotic, politically or religiously correct “values” rather than critical judgment may produce a nation of achieving high school graduates who are also psychopaths.”

(A prophetic quote from James Hillman’s book *The Soul’s Code* which was written in 1997 when Pluto had gone into Sagittarius)

The First AI Article in LC in 1992!

Interestingly, the first time Artificial Intelligence appeared in Longevity Circuit is 1992 in the articles below. “Neural Networks” were the original name for these systems. Here are the links to [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#) in the newsletter archive.

NEURAL NETWORKS: The Brain in the Box?

By Paul

The Deal of the Century

Have I got a deal for you. I've got a computer with over 100 billion microprocessors (more than the number of stars in our galaxy) It fits in a one foot square container, weighs approximately 5 pounds, and uses about 20 watts of power (equivalent to a clock radio). There's no software to load, and it's performance improves with use, you even have free access to it...It's your brain.

The human brain is full of paradoxes. It runs very slowly compared to its electronic counterpart, taking milliseconds (thousands of a second) to send messages around, while today's digital computers send messages in nanoseconds (0.000000001 second). There are as many nanoseconds in a second as there are seconds in over 30 years. But speed isn't everything. Where the digital computer sends its messages one at a time (very very quickly), the human brain sends billions of messages around and calculates billions of results all in the same

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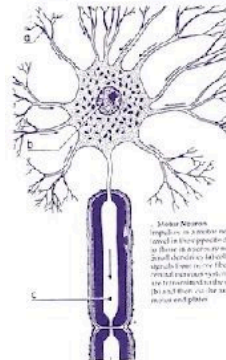
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Neural, Cont.

moment, a phenomenon called a "massively parallel" computer. The home computer is great for doing all the math calculations on your income tax in a few seconds and playing a tough game of chess, but it still can't compose a symphony, write a novel, or even simply recognize handwriting... or can it?

Origins of Neural Networks

The latest and greatest from computer science used to be something called Artificial Intelligence (AI). This type of computer programming makes the computer act like it has intelligence by performing complex programs that seems to "think" like the human brain. However, these programs still follow the traditional programming framework of one inspection being executed at a time. The speed of the computer and the intelligence of the programmer define the limits of the



program's "knowledge." Even AI programs that are so called "self-teaching" programs only learn in the areas in which they are programmed to learn.

A new approach was needed to cope with the more complex problems that were arising in the AI field, and the human brain obviously held the secrets to incredible computing power, so the first electronic neural networks were constructed using brain cells, called neurons, as models. The earliest neural networks consisted mainly of motors, gears, and relays, (much like the earliest computers) and did tasks like recognizing one letter of the alphabet at a time, not a particularly practical task for the projects at that time so they were considerably less useful than their early computer counterparts. The breakthrough came as this decade's computers provided the powerful processing capabilities needed to perform the complex mathematical tasks that a practical neural network requires.

Today's commercial neural networks perform tasks ranging from controlling robotic arms for manufacturing, recognizing handwritten characters (on insurance forms for example), to compressing digital images to be stored in a computer's memory.