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Austin Weekly Deal Highlights

June 26th, 2022

Honestly, empty and exhausted. I just hope all those that agree with this ruling are doing something to help the surplus of children and mothers in need in this country.

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Austin Financing Activity

- [MicroTransponder](#), a developer of nerve stimulation-based therapies, raised [a \\$53M Series E](#) led by **US Venture Partners**. **Action Potential Venture Capital**, **The Vertical Group**, **Green Park & Golf Ventures**, **Exceller Hunt Ventures** and **Osage University Partners** also participated in the round.
- [Apptronik](#), a developer of products and services for robots designed to work with and around humans, raised [\\$14.6M of seed funding](#) from **Grit Ventures**, **Perot Jain** and **Capital Factory**
- [Kickfin](#), paymet software that helps in sending tips directly to employees' bank accounts, raised an [\\$11M Seed Round](#). **Silverton Partners** led the round, with participation from **Acronym Venture Capital**
- [Knit](#), a consumer insights startup that empowers brands to make customer-centric decisions through voice of consumer video feedback, raised [\\$3.55M seed round](#) led by [Silicon Road Ventures](#) with participation from [Bread and Butter Ventures](#), [Alumni Ventures](#), [Bootstrappers.mn](#), [Operate Studio](#), and [TiE Global Angels](#).
- [Wilder Systems](#), a robotics automation company, [raised \\$2.8M](#) of venture funding from undisclosed investors

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For more than 20 years, Wilson Sonsini's Austin-based attorneys have represented innovative technology and life sciences companies. Drawing on the firm's legacy of working with promising start-ups and investors that finance them, our Austin team represents disruptors, market-makers, and even renegades on financing, company formation, equity structures, investor negotiations, and IP rights as well as growth-related matters involving corporate governance, IP, technology transactions, employment and compensation, litigation, and regulations. Whether you're a first-time innovator looking to

launch a new company, or an experienced entrepreneur, we invite you to connect with [our Austin team](#) or visit our new [Emerging Companies site](#)—a digital hub for start-ups that offers access to a wide range of free legal resources and insights, including our new legal services platform [Neuron](#).

Austin M&A Activity

- [Sparkrock](#), an ERP solutions provider for K-12, non-profit, and human service organizations, [has been acquired](#) by Austin-based **Ionic Partners, LLC**. **Andy Tryba**, co-founder and CEO of Ionic Partners, joins Sparkrock as Chief Executive Officer, succeeding Colin Dickinson as CEO.

Other Texas Deal Activity

- [ViraTech](#), a Plano-based remote patient monitoring platform, [raised \\$14.3M](#) of venture funding from undisclosed investors. The company has raised approx. \$29M to date from investors including **BayMed Venture Partners** and **Tech Mahindra**.
- [IPwe](#), a Dallas-based platform for blockchain-enabled IP transactions, raised \$5M of venture funding from undisclosed investors. Previously, the company raised \$2.5M of Series A from **Alpana Ventures**, **Tareyton Venture Partners** and **AeLION Group** earlier this year.
- [SquarePeg](#), a Dallas-based job matching platform, raised [\\$2.85M](#) of venture funding from Vitalize Venture Capital
- [AlgoPear](#), a Dallas-based trading platform that provides short-term retail investors with algorithm strategies, raised [\\$2M seed funding](#) in a deal led by **Noemis Ventures**

Central Texas People

- San Antonio-based collaborative startup space and incubator, **Geekdom**, [elects Active Capital](#) co-founder, **Cat Dizon** as chair of Board of Directors

Austin News

- Congratulations to our Central South region's EY Entrepreneur Of The Year [winners](#), including my good friend **Tim Heyl** of **Homeward**.
- [Texans Object](#) to the U.S. Supreme Court Overturn of a Woman's Right to Abortion
- **Tesla's** recently opened **Giga Texas** is a gigantic money furnace, [says Elon Musk](#). Tesla about [to begin deliveries of the Model Y](#) Long Range built at Giga Texas
- Data from the National Science Foundation for fiscal year 2021 shows that **The University of Texas** at Austin is [No. 1](#) in Texas and among the top 10 universities in the country for research awards that are financially supported by the NSF. The university had NSF research awards totaling more than \$115 million.
- UT athletes [racked up over \\$2 million](#) in name, image, and likeness (NIL) deals in first year
- **SpaceX** building facility [19 miles away](#) from Austin's Tesla factory
- Austin's venture backed tech co **Self Financial** is new [jersey sponsor of San Antonio Spurs](#)
- Austin-based **Bumble** [sponsors 50 female athletes](#) in honor of Title IX
- Texas university awards \$4M for [groundbreaking Alzheimer's research](#)
- **Dell Med** [Helps Attract More Than 400 New Doctors](#) to Austin
- Downtown Austin alcohol sales [record-high](#) as tourism recovers

Thank you!

[Mason Rathe](#)

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