

reserved more than \$29.7 million worth of TV ads in the race to replace HHS Secretary Tom Price in Congress, which will break a five-year-old record for House spending - highlighting the outsized importance a sliver of the Atlanta suburbs has taken on in national politics.

**"It is plainly more money than one House race out of 435 needs.** Cash is flowing in at such saturation levels that Democrat Jon Ossoff's campaign had the money for everything from Korean radio ads to free Lyft rides for voters on primary day. The Atlanta NBC station has even bumped reruns of 'The Andy Griffith Show' from their regular slot in order to extend its local newscasts and make more room for political ads." <http://politi.co/2pkhNn8>

**THE LOYAL OPPOSITION -- "Democrats tackle the 'big rebuild',"** by Gabe Debenedetti: "The [DNC] headquarters remains mostly empty, devoid of almost any senior staff. It has a new chairman, Tom Perez, but there's still no executive director. There's a completely new organizational chart, but the gutted political, finance, and tech offices remain in search of new leaders. In other words, the DNC is showing signs of life after a long period of dormancy, but progress is slow. And it's about to get more painful as Democrats prepare to embark on a delicate round of group therapy sessions - otherwise known as unity commission meetings - that could reopen intraparty wounds from the Bernie Sanders-Hillary Clinton presidential primary fight.

**"In private conversations with fellow Democrats,** new Chairman Tom Perez describes the precarious situation as trying to repair a plane that's already in the air. The committee had been largely neglected by party leadership in the final years of Barack Obama's presidency. After an email hack and leaks that intensified charges that the DNC favored Clinton over Sanders, Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz was ousted in July, forcing the committee to undergo a high-wire transition in the middle of the campaign." <http://politi.co/2qNOwkV>

**PODCAST DU JOUR -- "The Meaner Bill:** How the working class will get the short end of the stick in the American Health Care Act," by Slate's Jacob Weisberg: "Weisberg talks to the surgeon and writer Atul Gawande about the AHCA and why its passing would be a catastrophe for the very people that vote." <http://slate.me/2qNCwOG>

**VALLEY TALK -- "Facebook wants to launch its big attack on TV next month - here's what we know,"** by Business Insider's Nathan McAlone and Alex Heath: "Facebook has kicked its push for TV-like shows into high gear and is aiming to

premiere its slate of programming in mid-June, multiple people familiar with the plans told Business Insider. Facebook plans to have about two dozen shows for this initial push and has greenlit multiple shows for production ... [T]he social network had been looking for shows in two distinct tiers: a marquee tier for a few longer, big-budget shows that would feel at home on TV, and a lower tier for shorter, less expensive shows of about five to 10 minutes that would refresh every 24 hours."

<http://read.bi/2qLN976>

\*\*\*\*\* **A message from JPMorgan Chase & Co.:** Failing to prepare young people with the right skills and education to compete for good jobs is not just a missed opportunity for them - it is a missed opportunity for businesses to hire the talent they need to grow and compete. That's why JPMorgan Chase launched New Skills for Youth, a \$250 million global initiative to expand high-quality career-focused education programs, featured in our annual Corporate Responsibility Report.

<http://politi.co/2pcCzY5> \*\*\*\*\*

**MEDIAWATCH -- "Ryan Grim to leave HuffPost for The Intercept,"** by Hadas Gold and Joe Pompeo: "Grim, the Washington bureau chief of HuffPost, is leaving the site to become Washington bureau chief of The Intercept. Grim, one of the original HuffPost staffers in Washington, helped herald in the era of original reporting for the website. He's been with HuffPost for nine years." <http://politi.co/2qNX7UY> ... **HuffPost editor Lydia Polgreen's memo to staff about Grim's departure** <http://bit.ly/2pgwDKt>

**ALI WATKINS to POLITICO** - Carrie Budoff Brown and Paul Volpe email the staff: "We're thrilled to announce that Ali Watkins, who covers national security and intelligence for BuzzFeed News, is joining POLITICO as a national security correspondent. Ali is one of Washington's most talented young journalists on the beat and has delivered consistently impressive coverage of the investigation into Russian involvement in the 2016 election."

--**"Sputnik denied permanent congressional credentials,"** by Hadas Gold with Daniel Lippman: "The Congressional Periodical Press Gallery committee has denied Sputnik, a Russian state-owned news website, a permanent congressional press pass. Sputnik has the opportunity to appeal the decision ... According to the gallery rules members must not 'act as an agent for, or be employed by the Federal, or any State, local or foreign government or representatives thereof.' ... Meanwhile, Laura Ingraham's site LifeZette was approved for a press pass on Friday."