Create Email Alert Notification Channel

Description

I want to send alerts using Grafana, but I need to first create an alert notification channel.

In this lecture I will create a new channel for email alerts.

I don't have an SMTP server available, so install a local send only SMTP server on my Grafana server.

```
sudo apt install mailutils
```

At the prompt, I choose **Internet Site**

After the install is finished, I need to configure the Postfix SMTP server.

```
sudo nano /etc/postfix/main.cf
```

I edit 2 values at the bottom being,

```
inet_interfaces = loopback-only
inet_protocols = ipv4
```

Then restart postfix

```
sudo systemctl restart postfix
```

I can test the SMTP server sends emails using

```
echo "This is the body" | mail -s "This is the subject" -a "FROM:[senders address]" [your personal email]
```

Next to configure Grafana SMTP settings

```
sudo nano /etc/grafana/grafana.ini
```

Find the SMTP specific settings, uncomment and edit

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```
[smtp]
enabled = true
host = localhost:25
skip_verify = true
from_address = admin@[your grafana domain name or ip]
from_name = Grafana
```

Restart Grafana

```
sudo service grafana-server restart
```

Go back into Grafana, into your new Email notification channel settings and try to send a test email.

Check your SPAM folder.