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Albino gators move to Paris
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IRS warns of heavy call volume, offers tips for faster answers
 WASHINGTON — The IRS issued a warning Monday that it will receive a record number of calls from taxpayers seeking answers to questions about the new tax law. The agency said it expects to receive 1.5 billion calls in the first six months of the new law's implementation. To help taxpayers get answers faster, the IRS is offering several tips, including calling during off-peak hours and using the agency's website for common questions.

ERASING THE GRAY
 City ethics rules pressure pensioners to retire from public jobs
 KANSAS CITY — A new ethics rule that goes into effect this month could pressure public employees to retire if they are over 50 and have 15 years of public service. The rule, which is part of a broader effort to reduce pension costs, requires employees to retire if they are over 50 and have 15 years of public service, or if they are over 55 and have 10 years of public service.



Kan. Senate approves death penalty appeals changes
 KANSAS CITY — The Kansas Senate on Monday approved changes to the state's death penalty appeals process. The changes, which were passed by a 17-10 vote, will require the state to pay for the legal costs of appeals for inmates on death row. The changes also will require the state to pay for the legal costs of appeals for inmates on death row.

Calif. concealed weapon law tossed by fed appeals court
 SAN FRANCISCO — A federal appeals court on Monday tossed a California law that required gun owners to carry their weapons in public. The court, which is part of the Ninth Circuit, ruled that the law violated the Second Amendment. The court's decision is a significant victory for gun rights advocates.