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The 2018 King Holiday observance will mark the eighty-ninth birthday of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., and the thirty-second anniversary of the national holiday in King's honor. It is celebrated in some form in more than 100 countries around the world.

With the theme, "Our Community: Strong in Love, Peace and Unity," Gallup will hold city wide events commemorating King's life and legacy, with an invitation to all to attend.

The theme emphasizes the importance of remembering King's work and legacy, celebrating his birthday as a national holiday and acting on his teachings and principles of nonviolence and respect for human rights.

King's legacy is a challenge to people of our country and all nations to create a new era of nonviolent conflict reconciliation bringing people together across racial, religious, political and cultural differences in keeping with King's vision of the essential unity of all people.

The annual March of Unity on Jan. 15 will begin with an interfaith prayer circle at the Gallup Cultural Center and Train Station on Highway 66 at 12:30 pm.

The march will proceed to the Larry Brian Mitchell Recreation Center where the program, refreshments and award presentations will take place. Donations of nonperishable food items to replenish the Gallup Community Pantry would be appreciated.