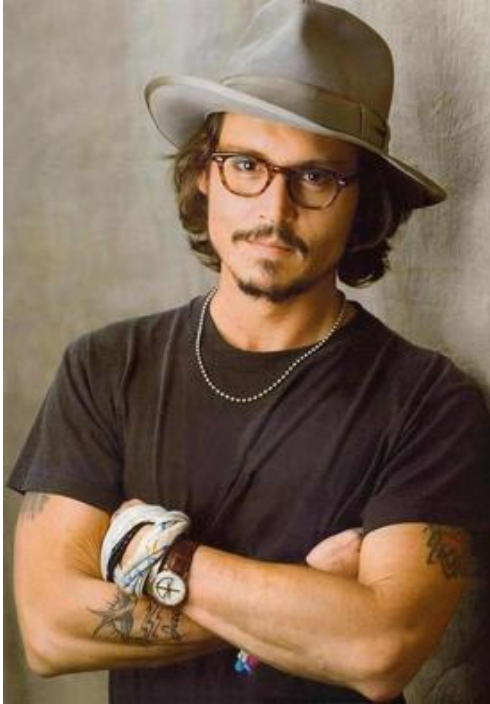




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(S.D.)-Depp Offers To Purchase Wounded Knee Site



By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 07/12/2013 01:36 PM

(Wounded Knee)-Actor Johnny Depp's offer to pay a multimillion-dollar price tag to restore ownership of the Wounded Knee massacre site to the Oglala Sioux likely won him new fans in Indian country.

But it doesn't resolve the question of how to honor the dead of Wounded Knee.

The Omaha World Herald is reporting Depp's offer in their July 12 edition.

Elizabeth Castle, until recently a history professor at the University of South Dakota who has studied the events of Wounded Knee, said it's an easy answer, but it's not really a solution.

Chuck Trimble of Omaha, a Native American rights advocate and journalist who is an enrolled member of the Oglala Lakota nation, is among those who think Depp should do something else with his money. He thinks it's very generous of him, but there are quite a number of people who wish he wouldn't do this. Trimble said if Depp wants to give millions, he should give it to a cause, and not pay it to a man who is holding the Wounded Knee site for a price, stating it's very questionable how James Czywczynski got it in the first place."

Depp, who plays the role of Tonto in Disney's current remake of "The Lone Ranger," recently [told the British tabloid the Daily Mail](#) that he was interested in purchasing a 40-acre parcel that includes the Wounded Knee massacre site, which was recently put on the market by its private owner. The land has an assessed value of less than \$14,000, but the asking price is \$4.9 million. For the complete story, go to www.omaha.com.

(Information contained in this story is from the Omaha World Herald, originally written by Leslie Reed)