

# *Wounded heroes return to Gettysburg April 28, with 'Face of America' ride*

About 500 riders, including wounded warriors and their supporters, will return on Gettysburg on Sunday, April 28, when the "Face of America" bicycle ride makes another triumphant finish. In its 11th year, the two-day ride from the Pentagon to the home of the late Seamus Garrahy on Plank Road, Gettysburg, is a patriotic journey that highlights the spirit and sacrifices of military heroes and their ability to overcome physical challenges.

The ride begins in Arlington, Va., on Saturday morning, April 27 and finishes the day in Frederick, Md. The peloton will resume its ride Sunday morning, winding northward and entering Adams County on Mason-Dixon Road in mid-morning.

The ride, organized by World T.E.A.M. Sports, will proceed north on Taneytown Road to a rest stop at the Barlow Firehall between 11 a.m. and noon. Riders are expected to make a grand entrance at Garrahy's house at about 1 p.m. At that time, riders will be treated to the traditional lunch of steaks and beers.

Participants include many disabled veterans, along with

currently active military and retired military. Active duty service and emergency response men and women also join hundreds of able-bodied citizens who ride together.

Iraq War veteran and a star of the 2012 theatrical film " Battleship," Army Col. Gregory Gadson, is returning to the Face of America ride as keynote speaker for the non-profit's April 26 commemorative dinner in Arlington and honorary rider.

Gadson's participation in the non-profit's Washington to Gettysburg bicycle ride in 2009, was only two years after a May 7, 2007 attack in Baghdad cost him both legs above the knees and limited the use of his right hand and arm.

"Not only is the Face of America ride a great event because it honors our wounded soldiers, but it's also a great a way to meet new people who enjoy being active and making new friends," said Rachel Jacob, who, with sister Amanda will ride with the Booz Allen Hamilton team. "I have met many people along the route from DC to Gettysburg that will a part of my life, for the rest of my life."