

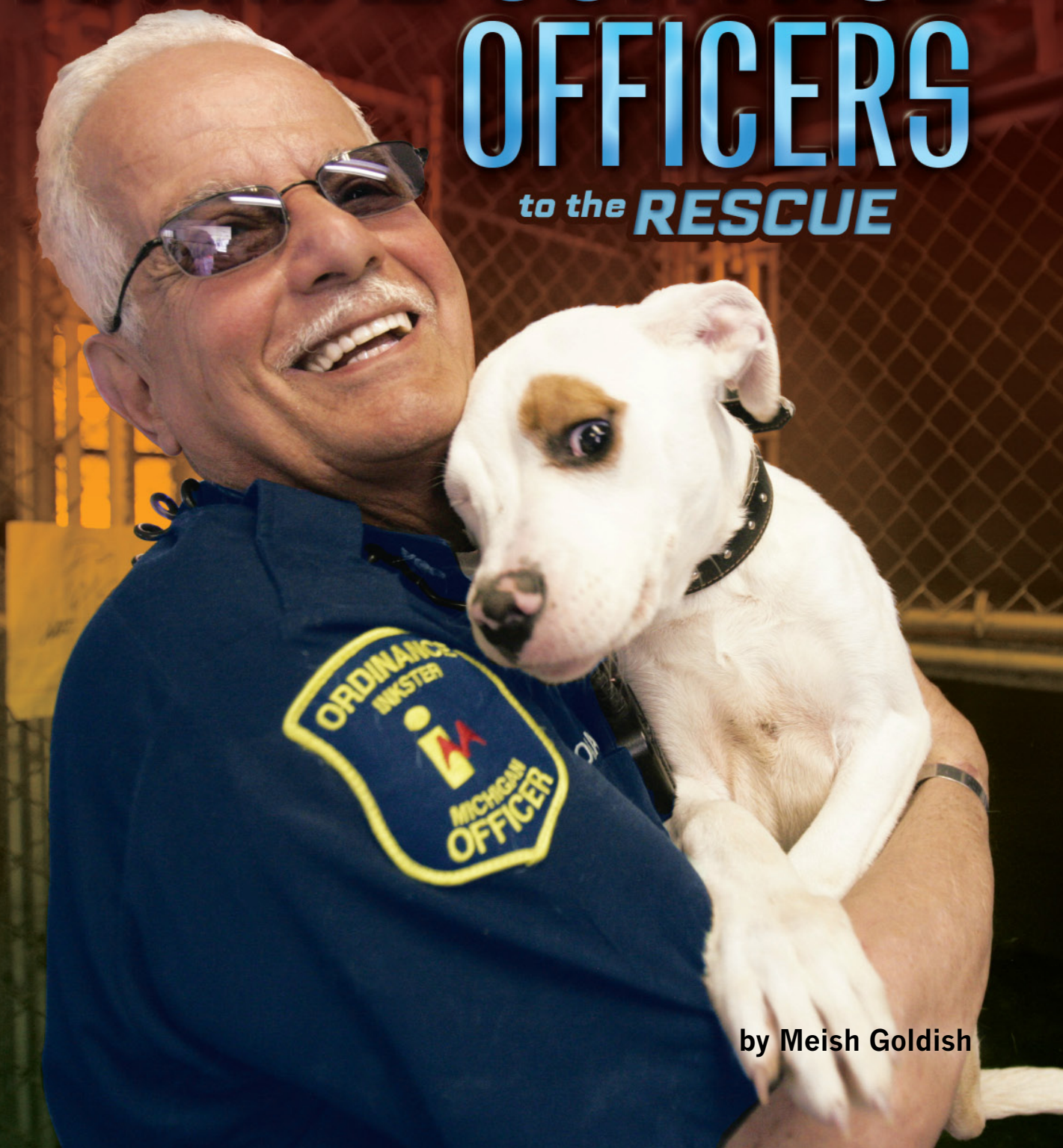
THE WORK OF HEROES:



FIRST RESPONDERS IN ACTION

# ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS

to the **RESCUE**



by Meish Goldish

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FIRST RESPONDERS IN ACTION

# ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS

to the **RESCUE**



by Meish Goldish

Consultant: Officer Todd Stosuy  
Field Services Manager  
Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter  
Santa Cruz, California

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# On Thin Ice

It was a winter evening in 2008. Gabe Seim and a friend were walking their dogs near a frozen pond at Indian Rock Park in Salina, Kansas. Suddenly, Gabe's dog, Porter, bolted onto the pond. The ice under Porter's feet broke, and the black Labrador plunged into the chilly water. Porter tried to crawl back onto the ice, but it was too slippery for his paws to grip.

Indian Rock Pond in warmer weather





Gabe rushed onto the icy pond to try to save Porter. However, the ice gave way, and he also fell into the water. After climbing out and returning to **shore**, Gabe called 911. The 911 operator quickly contacted Jane Trostle, an animal control officer, who sped to the scene. When she arrived, Porter had been in the freezing water for more than ten minutes. Could she save the dog in time?



A person can generally survive in extremely cold water for 10 to 20 minutes. The amount of time a dog can survive depends on the type of dog and its size.

Porter grew tired as he fought to keep his head above water.



# *A Daring Rescue*

Officer Trostle and Gabe carefully walked onto the ice to rescue Porter. They held out a long tree branch for Porter to grab with his mouth. However, the ice broke before they could reach him. Both rescuers crashed into the water. After the pair climbed out, police at the scene tried to help Porter. They tossed a long cord around the dog's neck to pull him to shore—but their efforts also failed.



Officer Trostle and Gabe tried to use a tree branch to help Porter escape the icy water.



In one last attempt, Officer Trostle crawled back onto the ice and called to Porter. As she inched closer to him, the ice once again collapsed, and she fell back into the water. This time, however, the dog swam straight to her. "I think he knew I was there to help him," said Officer Trostle. The exhausted pair swam back to shore. Despite being cold and wet, Officer Trostle, Gabe, and Porter were all fine—and thankful to be alive.

Officer Trostle crawled onto the ice on her belly and fell into the water a second time.



Gabe's grandmother, Sue, dried off Porter after he was rescued.



A newspaper reporter at the scene made a video of Officer Trostle's rescue of Porter. The story spread quickly and was aired on state and national news programs.

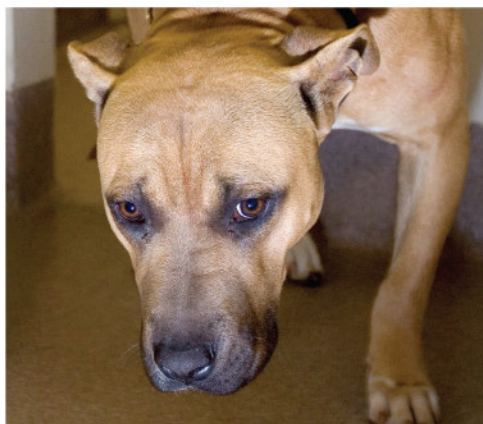


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## About the Author

Meish Goldish has written more than 200 books for children.  
His book *Army: Civilian to Soldier* was a Children's Choices Selection in 2012.  
He lives in Brooklyn, New York.





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THE WORK OF HEROES:  FIRST RESPONDERS IN ACTION

# ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS

## to the **RESCUE**

In 2008, a black Labrador named Porter ran onto a frozen pond in Kansas. When the ice broke, the dog plunged into the freezing water. Porter tried to crawl back onto the ice, but his paws couldn't grip its slippery surface. When the dog's owner called for help, animal control officer Jane Trostle rushed to the scene. Porter had already been in the freezing water for more than ten minutes. Could Officer Trostle save the dog in time?

Look inside to find out how animal control officers use quick thinking and their expert skills to come to the aid of all kinds of animals, from baby turkeys to huge boa constrictors. You'll also go behind the scenes to learn how these dedicated workers prepare for their job so that they are ready to help and protect animals and ensure the safety of people at a moment's notice.

**ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS**  
*to the Rescue*

**DOCTORS**  
*to the Rescue*

**FIREFIIGHTERS**  
*to the Rescue*

**PARAMEDICS**  
*to the Rescue*

**POLICE OFFICERS**  
*to the Rescue*

**WILDLIFE REHABILITATORS**  
*to the Rescue*

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