

## Giving back: Katy resident feeds 300 people for his 40<sup>th</sup>

\* Houston Chronicle by line \*



Katy residents Payal Vineet, left, and Vineet Kumar pose on Sunday, Jan. 10, as they distribute boxed lunches.

For his 40th birthday, Vineet Kumar wanted to make a difference in Katy, his home of more than 15 years.

“We just sat down, and we were like, ‘Why not do something for the community, use the money and help people who don’t have as much as we have?’” Vineet said. “We are very blessed, and we just wanted to share a little bit with everyone.”

Instead of having a party or a big dinner out, he chose to feed some of the area’s needy. His wife Payal Vineet was planning a surprise party but had second thoughts. She approached him about it, and they decided to change plans. They contacted a few community organizations to help spread the word and distribute the food. **Katy Elks Lodge 2628** said right away they would gladly help.

Sunday, Jan. 10, was cold and rainy — the weather wasn’t cooperating with the drive-thru event. Still, more than 100 sandwiches, chips and cookies from Jason’s Deli went to Katy-area families. What was left of the 300 total lunches at the end of the event was brought to first responders, hospital staffs and factory workers.