Crab-Stuffed Shrimp

1 lb lg shrimp, peeled and deveined (leave tails on)

1/2 lb lump crab meat, picked over for shells

- 1/4 C seasoned bread crumbs
- 1/4 C finely chopped celery

1/4 C finely chopped onion

- 1/4 C mayonnaise
- 1 lg egg, beaten

1 T Dijon mustard

- 1 T Worcestershire sauce
- 1 T Old Bay seasoning
- 1 t lemon juice
- 1/4 t salt

1/4 † black pepper

1/4 C parsley or cilantro

1 C panko breadcrumbs

Vegetable oil (for frying)

PREPARE THE SHRIMP: Butterfly the shrimp by cutting along the back, being careful not to cut all the way through. Set aside.

PREPARE THE CRAB MIXTURE: In a large bowl, combine the crab meat, seasoned breadcrumbs, celery, onion, mayonnaise, beaten egg, Dijon mustard, Worcestershire sauce, Old Bay seasoning, lemon juice, salt, and pepper. Mix gently to combine.

STUFF THE SHRIMP: Place a small amount of the crab mixture into the butterflied shrimp, pressing gently to secure.

COAT WITH PANKO: Dredge each stuffed shrimp in panko bread crumbs, pressing lightly to adhere.

CHILL: Place the stuffed shrimp on a baking sheet and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes to help them set.

HEAT THE OIL: In a deep fryer or large pot, heat vegetable oil to 350°F.

FRY THE SHRIMP: Fry the stuffed shrimp in batches for 2-3 minutes, or until golden brown and cooked through. Drain on paper towels.

Avocado Lime Dipping Sauce with Hojicha

1 ripe avocado 1/4 C sour cream 1 T lime juice 1 clove garlic, minced 1/4 t salt

1/4 t black pepper

1 t hojicha tea leaves

1 T chopped fresh cilantro (optional)

PREPARE THE TEA LEAVES: Steep the hojicha tea leaves in a small amount of hot water (about 2 T) for 3-5 minutes. Strain and let the tea cool.

PREPARE THE SAUCE: In a blender or food processor, combine the avocado, sour cream, lime juice, garlic, salt, black pepper, and the cooled hojicha tea. Blend until smooth. **ADD CILANTRO**: If using, stir in the chopped cilantro.

SERVE: Transfer the sauce to a serving bowl and serve alongside the crab-stuffed shrimp.