

Job Hunt Research

As you prepare for MOAA's military- and spouse-friendly career fair Oct. 30 at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, Va., be sure to do some solid groundwork.

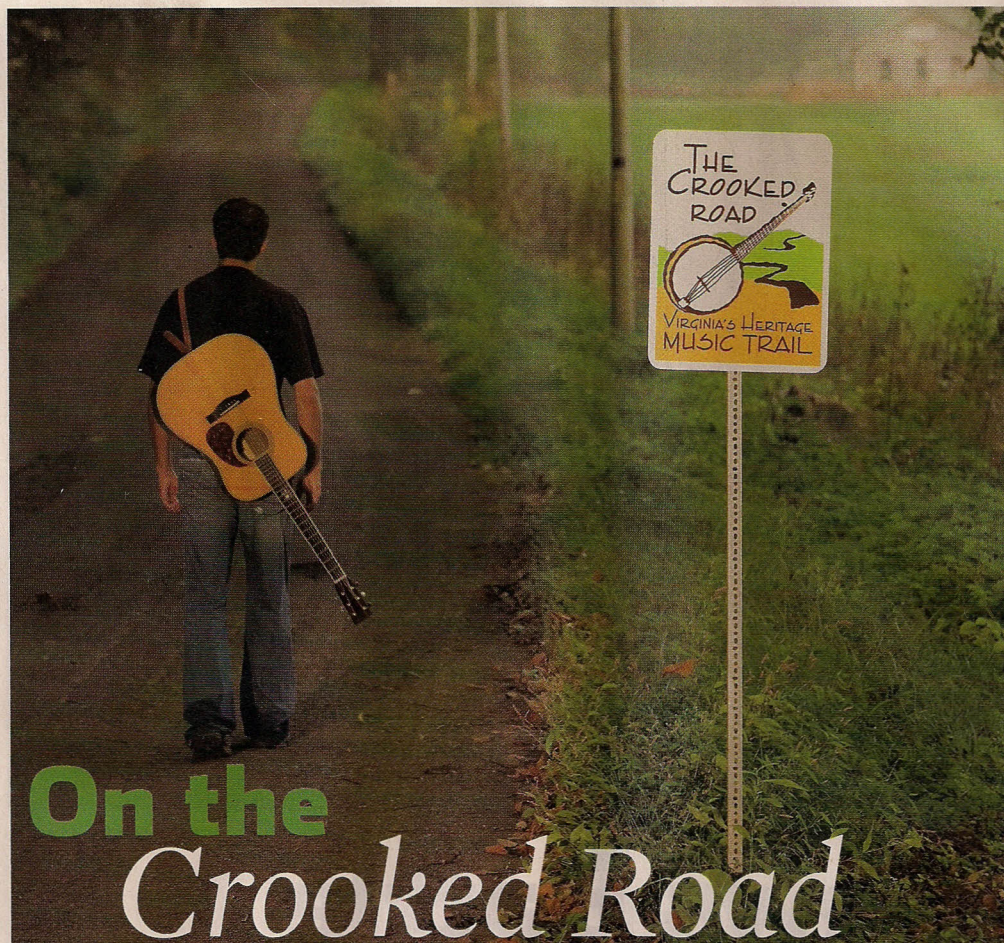
Research target companies by reviewing advertised positions on company websites, LinkedIn,



The Wall Street Journal, *Barron's*, CNBC, and other field-specific sources. (*Aviation Week* and *Space Technology* are good defense and aviation industry information resources, and the AFCEA Source Book provides insight into information technology organizations.)

While you're on LinkedIn, use the company search function to identify new employee hiring trends and find personal contacts employed by the company.

Remember, one of the worst things you can do is show unfamiliarity with basic company information available in the public domain.



On the Crooked Road

During Prohibition, southwestern Virginia's Franklin County was dubbed "The Wettest County in the World" because of its thriving (and vicious) moonshine industry. Today, however, it's home to scenic (and safe) trails leading to havens of traditional Blue Ridge art and music. "Round the Mountain" (www.roundthemountain.org) is an umbrella designation for 15 artisan trails featuring more than 400 artists and agri-artisans. On Franklin County's White Lightning Artisan Trail, for example, you'll find painters, jewelers, glass blowers, art galleries, a winery specializing in fruit wines, a daylily farm, and more.

Lovers of old-time string bands, gospel, blues, and bluegrass will relish Virginia's Crooked Road musical heritage trail (www.crookedroad.org) that meanders more than 250 miles west from Franklin County's Blue Ridge Institute & Museum, the official state center for Blue Ridge folklore.

The trail winds through 10 counties, three cities, and 10 towns and past numerous music venues. Some are as impressive as the Ralph Stanley Museum in a 100-year-old home in Clintwood. Others are as casual as the weekly morning music jams at the Dairy Queen in Rocky Mount (September through May on Thursdays). Wayside kiosks explain various areas' musical heritages, and local radio stations let visitors sample the region's music from their radios.

— Col. Glenn Pribus, USAF-Ret., and Marilyn Pribus

***online:** Visit www.moaa.org/careerfair for more MOAA career fair information.