Darvas expected to leave hospital today

Peter Darvas is expected to be released from Barton Memorial Hospital today.

The South Lake Tahoe artist has no home to return to. His house on April Drive and Pioneer Trail is a total loss after flames ripped through it Tuesday evening.



Firefighters from multiple agencies attack the flames Sept. 18 that destroyed two houses in South Lake Tahoe. Photo/Kathryn Reed

The cause of the Sept . 18 fire remains under investigation and may not be known for another day or two, according to South Lake Tahoe Fire Chief Brian Uhler. Lake Valley Fire Protection District is handling the investigation per an agreement between the departments.

Gareth Harris with Lake Valley did not respond to an email inquiring about the cause and dollar amount of damage.

The fire completely destroyed Darvis' house as well as house next door on April Drive.

"I visited him (Wednesday) in Barton's ICU, and though in pain

from burns to his face and hands, he will recover ...," Robert Schimmel said in an email of his friend Darvas. "... his voice/throat is healing as are his eyes and communication is somewhat painful."

- Lake Tahoe News staff report